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Volume XIX Number 15

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

April 11, 1996

## Lisa Ziegert Vigil Planned April 15th At Veterans Green

A Candlelight Vigil for Lisa Ziegert, who was murdered in Agawam on April 15, 1992, will be held on Monday, April 15th at 6:30 p.m. at the Veterans Green on Main Street in Agawam.

This vigil is held in Lisa's memory to show love and support for her family and to remind the community that her murder is still unsolved.

Mayor Christopher C. Johnson will be speaking, as well as a few of her friends and family members. Ms. Annie Fogg, a country singer from Southwick, will be there to sing a special song she wrote in Lisa's memory entitled, "Lisa's Song."

Your presence at this vigil will help us unite together as a community to show our love and support for Lisa and her family.

**We cannot give up!**



LISA MARIE ZIEGERT

## Ag. Post Office Now Accepts Credit Cards



**FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF CUSTOMERS**, the Agawam Post Office is now accepting major credit cards to pay for postal services. Above, postal clerk Ron Gamble accepts a credit card from customer Joe Ascoti. **RELATED PHOTO INSIDE.** Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## Bus Contract For Agawam Schools Up For Renewal

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

Contractors from as far away as New York are vying for the single largest contract awarded by the School Department, as the five-year deal with Five Star Transportation to provide school bus service is coming to an end in June.

The timing couldn't be worse for Five Star. Last month, one of its drivers pleaded guilty to operating a vehicle after his licenses had been revoked.

Richard G. Eisold, a convicted child molester, was working for Five Star as a temporary driver in Amherst when he was arrested during a routine school bus inspection by the state police last November.

As a convicted child molester, Eisold had been banned from ever driving a school bus in 1989. His license to drive any vehicle had been suspended in 1995.

Eisold received a 10-day suspended jail sentence, was placed on probation for one year, and had his license suspended indefinitely after entering a guilty plea in Northampton District Court.

**SEE BUS CONTRACT - Page 2...**

## Camp Rainbow To Be Combined With Perry Lane

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

At its next meeting on Tuesday, April 16th, Town Council will consider upping the fees charged by the town-operated nursery school and the town's summer camp programs.

In addition to increasing fees, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson is asking that the summer camp programs be integrated to include special needs children presently being served by Camp Rainbow.

In a memo sent to the council, Johnson said the Parks and Recreation Department and the Special Education Department are recommending the integration of the summer camp program "to reflect the integration which is occurring within our educational system; to meet the requirements of the Americans With Disabilities Act; and to provide the least restrictive program environment possible."

Johnson is recommending that the summer camp program be modified to offer an integrated summer camp program for youngsters aged six to 12 at Perry Lane Park; a pre-school playtime pro-

**SEE CAMP RAINBOW - Page 6...**



**BUS CONTRACT - from Page 1...**

Associate Superintendent of Schools Donald Charest said he had been made aware of the situation by the bus company, but declined comment on the effect the Amherst case would have on the awarding of the bus contract here.

Charest said the 40-page document detailing the bid specifications to provide bus service to Agawam schoolchildren for the next five years had been mailed to more than 20 contractors.

The sealed bids will be opened in Charest's office on April 18th at 2:00 p.m., but the contract will not necessarily be awarded to the lowest bidder.

"Deciding on the low bid is easy," Charest said. "Then we have to look at the practices of the company to see if it's a slipshod operation that has been cited by the state in the past."

As chairman of the School Committee Transportation Sub-Committee, Member Susan Pettazzoni said the contract would go to the lowest responsible bidder. "The key word is responsible. We're not going to jeopardize the safety of the kids."

Charest agreed, "Safety is our number-one thought, not money."

Charest said he would meet with the transportation committee prior to making his recommendation on the awarding of the contract to the School Committee at its May 14th meeting.

Charest said he would be looking at the overall cooperation and integrity of the bidders, and the experiences other school systems have had with the contractors in the past.

**Bid Specifications...**

The bid specifications call for 16 buses to provide 56 trips each day, four mid-day kindergarten runs, and six late runs on Monday through Thurs-

day at the Middle School and at the Junior High and High Schools.

Also, bidding for the Athletic Department's transportation needs, as well as extracurricular trips, will be included in the new contract.

Contractors can submit proposals using all new buses or buses that are three years-old. By the end of the five-year contract, no bus transporting students will be older than eight years (so that the School Department can be assured that the buses have the latest safety features installed, Charest said).

Charest said the hope is that by allowing contractors to amortize their costs over a five-year period, the School Department will get a better price.

Mrs. Pettazzoni said a reorganization of the Transportation Committee has led to the development of a manual of items that should be done every year so that the committee will be a more viable part of the School Department, rather than just a complaint department.

Mrs. Pettazzoni said the Transportation Committee will work closely with the bus company on the qualifications of the bus drivers, and will receive copies of the drivers list and copies of their licenses. This is an effort to close the loopholes that could result in substitute or temporary drivers being used for longer periods than allowed by state law.

Charest said checking the bus company's payroll records would allow him to spot any substitute driver who had been driving longer than the five days allowed by state law.

After five days, a substitute driver must be made permanent and paid at a higher rate.

**Subjected To The Same Background Check...**

Also, Charest said permanent bus drivers are subjected to the same background check used by the School Department when hiring new personnel, but substitute drivers are not. Permanent drivers must pass a driver training course, undergo physical examinations each year, pass drug and alcohol screening tests, and submit to driving record as well as criminal record checks. Substitute drivers just need a valid commercial license to be hired.

Within the last year, the School Department has been running criminal background checks on all new hires.

Charest said security checks were unheard of 20 years ago, but changing times have forced the School Department to run the checks when hiring people to work with children.

"So far, we haven't been surprised," Charest said.

Mrs. Pettazzoni said the drivers presently working in Agawam are doing an excellent job. "The drivers are from all over town and they know all the kids," Mrs. Pettazzoni said.

Charest said he was expecting a slight increase in transportation costs over the last contract, but would not speculate on specific dollar amounts. The five-year pact with Five Star Transportation costs the School Department close to \$500,000 per year.

Charest likened the job of sending buses all over town to bring students to schools at four different starting times to choreography. "Sometimes I look out my window and think, 'We must be doing something right—all the buses arrive at the same time.'"

**Please remember that our deadline is every Tuesday at noon. We open weekdays at 6:30 a.m. Thanks.**

## Keenan To Kick-Off Reelection Campaign With April 24th Pasta Dinner

Representative Dan Keenan has issued an invitation to the residents of the Third Hampden District to join with him and his family as he kicks off his reelection campaign to the State House of Representatives.

Representative Keenan has scheduled a pasta dinner for Wednesday, April 24, 1996, at the Polish

American Club on Southwick Street in Feeding Hills. The dinner will be served from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

The donation is \$5 per ticket, and tickets for seniors and children under 12 years of age are \$3. Tickets will be available at the door.



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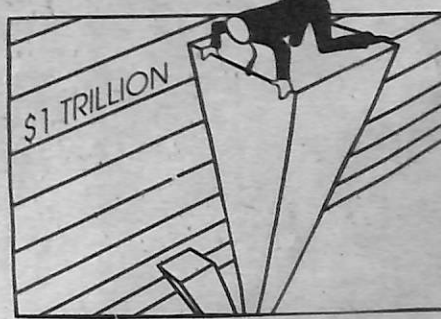
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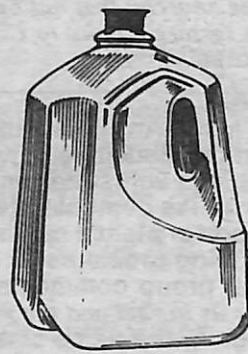
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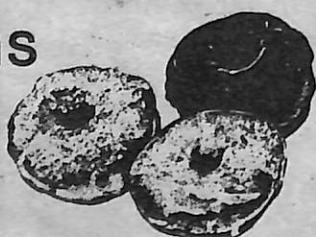
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## Comentary...

# Citizens Speak - Audience Cringes... Time To Return Dignity To Speak Time

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

Citizen's Speak Time. April Fools' Day. It's almost too cheap a shot, even for me. Almost, but not quite.

If you had any lingering doubts that it's about time for Town Councilors to put a stop to the abuse of the public's forum, the last council meeting held on April Fools' Day (no kidding!) should not only make you a true believer, it should convert you into someone on a mission.

It's one thing to bring information to the council's attention and to offer differing opinions on the issues of the day. It's quite another thing to use the public microphone for self-righteous whining and complaining about what one private citizen may have said about tax delinquency and the credibility of the politically active.

Credulity is stretched to the limit—no, to the breaking point—in trying to imagine just what the Town Council is supposed to do about it. Such childish tattletaling surely has no place in council chambers or on the public's access channel.

Yet, the council was urged to take action that very night to prevent constitutional rights from being trampled on and access to the democratic process from being denied. Yikes! Heaven forbid!

Who knew one person's unsubstantiated opinion had such power? Get real. Better yet, get in-

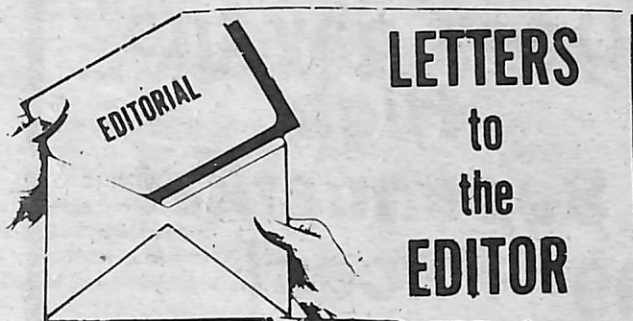
formed. The council has a job to do and it isn't refereeing the pettiness of Agawam politics at its worst.

It couldn't have gotten much worse than attacking people who aren't even present, right? Ding, dong. You're wrong.

Audience members came in for their share of criticism as some speakers actually turned away from the council to address their remarks to the public. Kind of lets you know just what Citizen's Speak Time has degenerated into, lately.

In a letter to the council president asking that guidelines to ensure a return to civility be drawn up for Citizen's Speak Time, Councilor George Bitzas nailed it: "The same few people come to the meetings week after week and abuse their privilege to speak. It seems that they are taking advantage of the public microphone to complain, accuse, and criticize not only the elected officials, but also people who sit in the audience and sometimes people who are not even present. This has gone too far ... I want to continue Citizen's Speak Time; it is the democratic process and the people have a right to be heard. But we should not let the anarchy that has been taking place continue. We must restore dignity to Citizen's Speak Time."

Amen.



## Citizens Should Cooperate With Permitting Process On BP

### To The Editor:

I read some of the concerns from the small group of leaders of the opposition to industrial development. I want you to read my article and be your own judge.

The small group said that there is not enough water to go around and that will have an impact on us. **THAT'S NOT TRUE! The truth is that the Springfield Water Department and the State Environmental officials said that there is enough water to supply the power plant and there will be no impact on current users.**

The same small group is misrepresenting the facts regarding property values. I gave a positive reaction to what can happen when a power plant is built in an economically depressed area.

I refer to Passaic, New Jersey. A friend of mine lived there. She stated the house cost a little more to buy but the tax rate was lower and the services excellent. The power plant is beautifully landscaped and everyone benefited by this operation. I have no reason to doubt the sincerity of Berkshire Power when they say "It will be the cleanest gas powered plant in the country."

The same small group continues by misrepresenting the facts concerning fogging

and icing. Any implications that fogging and icing from the Berkshire Power project will kill or injure people is unjustified and reprehensible. **Berkshire Power has demonstrated to the State experts that the power plant's operation will not cause fogging and icing problems on any local roads.** The same small group comments to the contrary, *they have no basis in fact and are irresponsible scare tactics.*

Again, the same small group said that there is no need for power. Even though the group was given the opportunity, they provided no evidence into the case of the Energy Facilities Siting Board showing that there is no need. The same small group continues to ignore the fact that this project will improve air quality.

They discount the stringent air quality standards that have been established by the State and Federal regulators. The small group opposing will not acknowledge that the **Berkshire Power Project will be the cleanest in the Nation.** Are they saying that it is better to have older dirtier plants operating than new cleaner facilities?

Finally to the few of the same group who support a power plant but not at the location that has been proposed by Berkshire Power. Where do you prefer to have a power plant? On the land behind the Big Y off Silver Street, land owned by WMECO?

The present location is zoned as industrial use since the 1950's. Some members of the group four years ago were opposed very strongly to changes for the light industry on the industrial zone.

I hope the small group opposing will stop the false accusations and misrepresentation of the facts. In closing, I would urge the citizens to cooperate rather than fight against the permitting process with Berkshire Power.

A town divided is a very serious problem. Let's give the processing a chance and put the Town of Agawam in a more respectable light.

Sincerely,  
Jessie D. Fuller  
(Former City Councillor)  
Agawam

SEE LETTERS - Page 5...

## Guest Editorial...

## Cooperation Is Needed For Final 10 Weeks Of AHS School Year

by Joseph Zablowski  
Acting Principal, Agawam High School

There are approximately 10 weeks left in the school year and the high school needs your assistance and support in the creation of a better educational environment for the remainder of the school year.

One area that needs to be worked on is tardiness to school. Far too many high school students come to school tardy each and every day. By not being in school on time, valuable educational time is being lost both in the classroom and in study hall. Please try to instill the importance of punctuality and being in school to obtain an education properly.

A second area involves fighting. After a relatively calm and quiet period, fighting is resuming. In general, these fights are originating due to out-of-school issues. It is essential that the activities of your child be monitored more closely so that fighting does not continue to spill into the school.

Being in school intoxicated or under the influence of an illegal drug is an ongoing problem. Parents or guardians are ultimately responsible for doing something about this.

Finally, there is "senioritis." Teachers have reported to the administration that many seniors have stopped working. This jeopardizes graduation! It can also lead to a negative situation as the behavior of seniors can worsen resulting in serious disciplinary problems.

The administration and staff at the high school can only do so much. As the Acting Principal of Agawam High School, I am asking for the all important parental support to assure a good closing of the school year.

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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Friday, April 12th  
Nocturnal Adoration Society  
At Saint Ann's Church,  
Memorial Avenue, West Springfield  
7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday, April 13th & 14th  
Two-Day Tag Sale by ASGA  
At Agawam Senior Center  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (both days)

Saturday, April 13th  
Operation Friendship's "Mystery Dinner"  
At F.H. Congregational, 21 N. Westfield St.  
6:30 p.m.  
Tickets: \$12.50 ; call 786-0195 or 789-3128

Tuesday, April 16th  
Agawam Junior Women's Club  
Captain Charles Leonard House  
Program: 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
(Topic - Herbal Massage)  
Refreshments  
Meeting: 8:45 p.m.

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LETTERS - from Page 4...

# Something To Think About For The Prom Season

To The Editor

I went to a party, mom,  
I remembered what you said.  
You told me not to drink, mom,  
So I drank soda instead.

I felt really proud inside, mom,  
The way you said I would.  
I didn't drink and drive, mom,  
Even though the others said I should.

I know I did the right thing, mom,  
I know you're always right.  
Now the party is finally ending, mom,  
And everyone drives out of sight.

As I got into my car, mom,  
I knew I'd get home in one piece,  
Because of the way you raised me, mom,  
So responsible and sweet.

I started to drive away, mom,  
But as I pulled onto the road,  
The other car didn't see me, mom,  
And it hit me like a load.

As I lie here on the pavement, mom,  
I hear the policemen say,  
The other guy is drunk, mom,  
And now I'm the one who will pay.

I'm lying here dying, mom,  
I wish you'd get here soon.  
How come this happened to me, mom?  
My life bursts like a balloon.

There is blood all around me, mom,  
Most of it is mine.  
I hear the paramedic say, mom,  
I'll die in a short time.

I just wanted to tell you, mom,  
I swear I didn't drink.  
It was the others, mom.  
The others didn't think.

He didn't know where he was going, mom,  
He was probably at the same party as I.

The only difference is, mom,  
He drank and I will die.

Why do people drink, mom?  
It can ruin your whole life.  
I'm feeling sharp pains now, mom.  
Pains just like a knife.

The guy who hit me is walking, mom,  
I don't think that is fair.  
I'm lying here dying, mom,  
While all they can do is stare.

Tell my brother not to cry, mom,  
Tell Daddy to be brave.  
And when I get to heaven, mom,  
Write "Daddy's Little Girl" on my grave.

Someone should have told him, mom,  
Not to drink and drive.  
If only they would have taken time, mom,  
I would still be alive.

My breath is getting shorter, mom,  
I'm becoming very scared.  
Please don't cry for me, mom,  
Because when I needed you, you were always there.

I have one last question, mom,  
Before I say goodbye,  
I didn't even drink, mom,  
So why am I to die?

This is the end, mom,  
I wish I could look you in the eye  
To say these final words, mom,  
I love you and good-bye.

Submitted by  
Janice M. Miner  
Feeding Hills

## What Is The Long-Term Plan For Raising SAT Scores?

To The Editor:

To The Agawam School Committee And City Councilors:

We were pleased to read in the Sunday, April 6th Union-News of the appropriation of \$80,000 for the City's schools. We are also encouraged that Mayor Johnson will suggest using \$100,000 in tax gains to buy new computers for the schools next year, and that he will try to divide \$85,000 next

year among the eight school councils.

While these monies provide a sorely needed investment for our children and our schools, they still leave fundamental questions unanswered. Specifically, what is the long-term plan for raising test scores (SAT and MEAPS)? What are the short-term and long-term plans for ensuring a safe, secure learning environment in the high school? And what is the plan for eliminating the chronic budget shortages that plague school funding?

If you and fellow committee/council members don't have answers to these questions, then you'd better get them and soon, otherwise get out of the way. We suggest, for starters, that you meet with your counterparts in more successful communities: find out what they're doing right.

If they have more money, find out how they got it (Prop 2 1/2 overrides; fee increases; user fees; Federal, state, and/or private foundation grants—maybe the City needs a decent grant proposal writer; corporate solicitations; legislative arm-twisting; whatever).

What about the trade publications? Surely they must publish stories about communities doing more with less. There must be examples of innovative cost-cutting without cuts in quality of education.

What about school safety? We don't buy the "general moral decay" baloney. Most school vandalism, assaults, and other criminal activity can be traced to a handful of individuals. These "students" should be identified and expelled. We wouldn't want criminals teaching or bus driving our children; why should we let them attend school with them.

Maybe we can get volunteers (with appropriate training) to monitor the hallways, bathrooms, etc. They may be paper tigers, to be sure, but they can still point out the overly exuberant youths to school authorities.

Test scores? We don't have suggestions for that. Curriculum changes? We don't know. But there are plenty of good people to ask. Solicit your constituents, your peers, the teachers.

There are plenty of people out there with ideas, good ideas. Listen to them. If some of the good ideas need seed money, ask us, the citizens of Agawam; we're not averse to investing in our most precious resource, our children.

SEE LETTERS -  
Page 6...

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# LETTERS - from Page 5...

If you're taking steps to address the above problems, then let us know. We have a fine public access station and an excellent newspaper in which to air your thoughts. Feel free to explain the thinking behind controversial funding decisions. We're reasonable people. We may not agree, but at least we'll understand.

And come on, admit it, you've got to be tired of the letters that imply gross incompetence, cowardice, and ulterior motives on the part of the council/committee. Just explain yourselves. It would go a long way toward relieving the frustration felt by many parents.

Lastly, we'd like to thank Sue Dempsey for all her efforts on behalf of the school kids of Agawam. Her tireless devotion, her passion, and her concern are traits that should be emulated by more of us. Agawam would be better for it.

Sincerely,  
David and Karen Witherell  
Agawam

## Will CCBA Live By The Decision Of Siting Board?

### To The Editor:

Over the past month or more, I have heard much talk from the CCBA about the Energy Facilities Siting Board hearings.

The CCBA continues to make out-of-context quotes from testimony that took place at these hearings in Boston. They continue this practice, even though the CCBA attended only two days of hearings out of the 14 days that were held.

Seeing that the CCBA likes to refer to the Siting Board so much, will they make a commitment to accept the Board's decision? Berkshire Power will have to live by the Board's decision; will CCBA do the same—no matter what the decision may be?

Or will the CCBA continue to believe that they

know more than the state experts?

Sincerely,  
Susan E. Arnold  
Feeding Hills

## Agawam Should Be Proud Of AHS Winter Colorguard

### To The Editor:

I feel that it is time for the residents of Agawam to be proud of a group of ladies from Agawam High School.

The Agawam "Legend" Winter Colorguard, consisting of 19 students from grades nine to 12, has performed in five competitions across the state, receiving first- and second-place honors at each festival. At the New England Scholastic Band Association Finals in Salem, MA, they earned second place, only 1.2 points away from first.

Under the instruction of Ross Viens and Ann Marshall, the members of this group practiced for 2½ hours a night, three nights a week, with an occasional weekend rehearsal. They were accustomed to calling the tiny gymnasium/auditorium at Phelps School "home," with George the custodian always giving an encouraging word. He even traveled to cheer them on at one of their shows.

So kudos to Captains Danielle LaBarre, Andrea LeBlanc, and Stacy Rennell, and the entire Guard: Jen Rondinelli, Jaime Callahan, Sarah Shepard, Heather Cushing, Kim Faust, Alyson Reid, Melissa Weinle, Jessica Couture, Nicole Quintin, Becky Avery, Jen McGuire, Martha Manning, Jen Loomis, Laura Tenerowicz, Michelle Ingalls, and Christina Januska.

We, as residents of Agawam, should be proud of this organization and their accomplishments. They deserve all of our support!

Congratulations to all of you. You had a terrific season, and your improvement was remarkable. You should be as proud of yourselves and each other as we, your dedicated fans, are of you.

Sincerely,  
Jason M. Reed  
Feeding Hills

## CAMP RAINBOW - from Page 1...

gram for four and five year-olds at Robinson Park School; and a teen camp for ages 13 and up at Robinson Park School.

Johnson said the integrated summer camp would be supported by medical personnel, counselor specialists, therapists, and higher camper/counselor ratios to accommodate the special needs campers. The pre-school playtime summer program would provide age-appropriate activities for 15 hours per week, and the teen camp would be geared to teen activities, including more field trips.

Presently, campers pay \$50 for a two-week session at Perry Lane Summer Camp; \$150 for seven weeks at Camp Rainbow; and \$50 for a limited seven-week program at Perry Lane Playtime Program.

The fee schedule he is requesting will not make the camps self-sustaining, but will more accurately reflect the cost of running the summer programs, according to Johnson.

### Recommended Fee Schedules...

The recommended fee schedules for the upcoming season are \$80 for two weeks at Perry Lane Summer Camp; \$50 for two weeks at the Pre-School Playtime Program; and \$80 for two weeks at the Teen Summer Camp. Under the plan proposed by the Mayor, the fees will increase for the 1997 season by \$20, 10, and \$20, respectively.

If bus transportation is offered this year, the cost will be based on the actual cost of providing the service, Johnson said. In previous years, transportation has been offered for an additional fee, but has not been used by the majority of campers.

Based on the interest shown during sign-ups, the recreation director will decide if it is feasible to offer bus transportation this year, Johnson said.

In a separate proposal, Johnson is seeking an increase of \$10 in the fees charged by the town-operated Perry Lane Nursery School.

Currently, the monthly charge for the three-day program is \$65, and the two-day program is \$50 per month.

Johnson said the fee increases will cover the cost of materials, supplies, equipment, and teacher salary increases. The nursery school program is self-sustaining, with the expenses being paid by the fees charged to the participants.

The fee schedules for both the nursery school and the summer camp programs have been in place since 1991.

## Check our classified

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## Agawam Beautification Committee To Again Offer Memorial Tree Planting Program

Following its successful 1995 introduction, the Agawam Beautification Committee will again this year offer its "Memorial Tree Planting Program."

Under this program, individuals or organizations can donate a tree as a living memorial to an individual or cause of their choice. The name of the individual and the name of the donor will be inscribed on a plate on the Memorial Tree plaque located in the front lobby of the Agawam Town Hall.

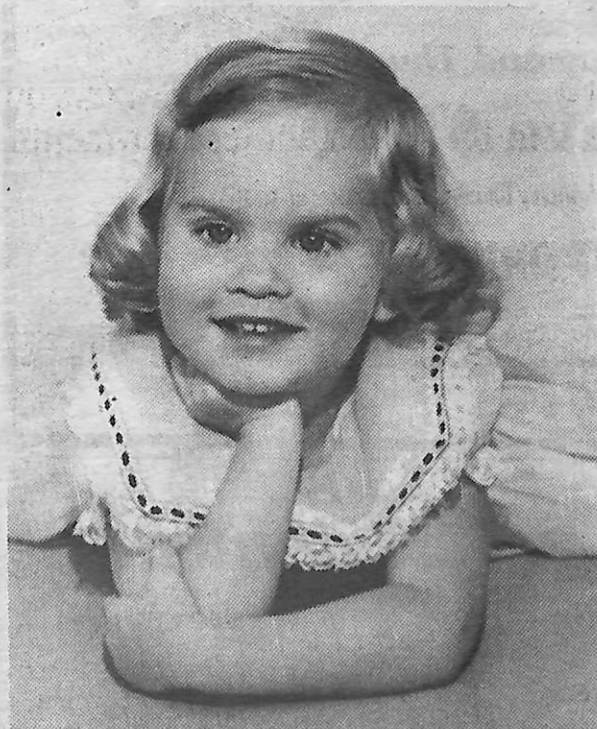
The tree will be chosen from an inventory of trees planted for this purpose some years ago by the Agawam Conservation Commission. For as long as trees are available from this inventory, a memorial tree can be planted for a donation of \$110. It will be planted on the treebelt of one of the town's major thoroughfares and, if possible,

in front of a public school or other public building.

Councilman George Bitzas observed, "This is a unique way to honor the memory of a person or a cause and also help to reestablish the historic beauty of our town." John Zebryk of the Beautification Committee said that this is a good way of replacing many of the trees which once graced our treebelts but were lost over the years to disease, storms, and expansion. For example, trees lost in front of the Granger School in Feeding Hills due to the Route 187 expansion are scheduled to be replaced under this program.

Additional information and copies of the "Memorial Tree Planting Program" brochure and application form can be obtained from the Agawam Planning Board Office, 786-0400, ext. 283.

## Lordy, Lordy Jody's Forty



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## from the State Senate

by State Senator Linda J. Melconian



### Auto Insurance Woes Live On

The auto insurance industry is booming, but consumers are still not receiving the savings they deserve. Although insurers are offering more group insurance plans at a five-10 percent discount, they are still penalizing good, safe drivers who deserve an even greater discount over high-risk, bad motorists.

It is about time the insurance companies aid the consumers of the Commonwealth by allowing for price competition, repealing no-fault insurance, and making health insurance primary.

It is unconscionable that our state is the only one in the nation that does not allow for real competition in auto insurance. Under a competitive system, insurers would offer substantial discounts for good drivers, and rates would be driven down, not regulated at one fixed and established rate as is currently the case.

The discounts given under group plans are a start, but they are the wrong type of savings. Since every driver is eligible to join a group, even the bad driver receives a discount from the established rate. Under a competitive system, discounts would be based on the experienced driving record of each individual. Group discounts of five-10 percent could still be offered, but perhaps another 10 percent reduction would be based on merit.

It is sad, but the majority of citizens of this Commonwealth are subsidizing drivers with bad driving records. Every other state mandates competition among insurers. It is time Massachusetts caught up with the rest of the nation and let the insurers compete for your business.

It is apparent, considering the many discounts being offered to groups by insurers, that the insurance companies are doing very well financially. Why not give some of the wealth back to low-risk, safe drivers who have been carrying too much of the burden? Competition is a way of life in almost every other industry. Why not auto insurance? Insurers should be ashamed, because they are hurting the consumers they are supposedly serving.

The Massachusetts Insurance Industry still insists on providing no-fault insurance which creates an 'artificial ceiling' of \$2,000 on personal injury claims. This ceiling, which can also serve as a floor, forces honest citizens to inflate their claims in order to collect. Thus, a \$1,500 injury can quickly become \$5,000. These costs are transferred to you, the consumer.

Repealing no-fault would eliminate the \$2,000 ceiling, allowing each claim to be paid at the actual cost, not inflated cost of the claim. In addition to the repeal, I have advocated mediation and arbitration in settling auto insurance claims. The insurers say that repealing no-fault would result in an overabundance of smaller claims. But by eliminating the ceiling and arbitrating these disputes, the cost would be much smaller. And in the event of mediation or civil action, the losing party would be required to pay court and attorney fees.

It is really appalling that your health insurance is not primary in auto accidents. If you are injured at home, health insurance covers your injuries. If you are injured at work, workers' compensation will aid your recovery. If you are injured in a car, you can collect from a variety of collateral sources and in many cases you are paying for duplication of coverage from which you can conceivably collect twice. Individuals can actually make a profit! Health insurance needs to become the primary form of coverage for auto injuries.

Revamping the auto insurance industry, making it more consumer friendly, is a daunting task. The first step is to expand group insurance the right way, by setting up group insurance demonstration projects in various counties and preventing discrimination in the marketing of group insurance policies.

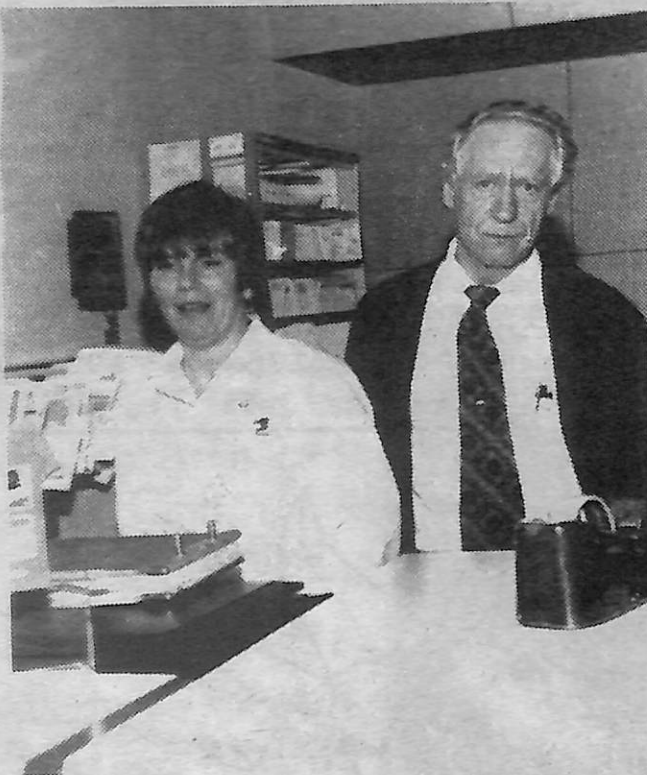
My bill, S. 776, and Senator Mark Montginy's legislation, S. 2144, would accomplish these goals, by improving group insurance for consumers and providing greater access to policies. Group auto insurance has many flaws, but it is the first step toward competition and the repeal of no-fault.

## Regular Town Council Meeting Agenda For Tuesday, April 16th

1. Citizen's Speak Time
2. Roll Call
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
4. Minutes - Special Council Meeting of 3/27/96  
Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 4/1/96
5. Declaration from Council President
6. Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances
  - (a) Resolutions
    1. TR-96-9-Resolution Confirming the Reappointment of Dr. Michael Jawitz, 141 Main St., Agawam, MA to the Board of Health for a Three Year Term Expiring the First Monday in February 1999 (Mayor).
7. Report of Council Committees
8. Elections
  - None
9. Public Hearings
  - None.
10. Old Business
  - (a)
    1. TOR-96-1-An Ordinance to Amend the Fees for Perry Lane Nursery School and the Wage Scale for Perry Lane Nursery School Personnel (Mayor)(1st Reading).
    2. TOR-96-2-An Ordinance to Amend the Fees for the Summer Camp Program and the Wage Scale for Summer Camp and Pool Personnel (Mayor)(1st Reading).
    3. TO-96-8-Request the City Council to hire an outside Attorney for legal opinion (Coun. Suffriti)(Tabled on 3/6/96 - Left on table on 3/18/96 & 4/1/96).
    4. TO-96-10-Application for video permit for Agawam Family Cinema's, 866 Suffield St., Agawam, MA for four (4) amusement devices.

*Please remember  
that Jack Devine  
needs at least 48  
hours notice to  
cover your event.*

### New Post Office Policy



AGAWAM POSTMASTER Walter Ciaschini and clerk Noreen Couture welcome local customers to use all major credit cards to pay for their postal needs. The Post Office began accepting credit cards several weeks ago. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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## Families

### Bondi's Island Invites Public Groups To Tour Facility On April 20th

As part of Springfield's Earth Day '96 Celebration, the Springfield Waste Water Treatment Facility has announced it will produce its first ever Open House for the general public on Saturday, April 20th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The staff at the WWTF located on Bondi's Island in Agawam have long been granting tours to student and special interest groups who make arrangements for a tour, but this represents the first time the public is encouraged to visit and participate in an educational and entertaining day at the regional treatment facility.

According to Philip Pike, Director of the Springfield Department of Public Works, "People have long wondered how we manage to clean the almost 42 million gallons of wastewater that flows to the plant each day from the participating communities. This Open House will give everyone the opportunity to ask questions and see firsthand how this interesting process works to help keep the Connecticut River clean."

In addition to short tours which will be ongoing throughout the day, the staff at the WWTF have planned some entertainment for the younger visitors and many educational displays for all environmental enthusiasts who participate in the Open House.

It is anticipated that anyone interested in Science, Biology, Chemistry, Engineering, Wildlife ecology, the Connecticut River, or the environment in general will have plenty to see and discuss with the many environmentalists and technicians who will be volunteering their services at the Open House.

Remember to mark Saturday, April 20th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on your calendars and plan to stop at this free family Earth Day '96 event.

Refreshments will be available and there is plenty of parking at the WWTF which is located in Agawam off Route 5 just south of the rotary on West Springfield's side of the Memorial Bridge. For further information about the Open House, you may call 787-6256.

### Fun Group For Senior Citizens Slated To Take Place At Sacred Heart

A free and special fun group for senior citizens will begin on Thursday, April 18th, and will run for seven weeks at the Sacred Heart Church Activity Center. The weekly meetings will take place from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

There is a season for all things, a time for sharing ... so bring your past forward through stories told! Take us down your "Memory Lane," and be surprised when memories intertwine.

Interested? Call 786-6410 and ask for Ruth Roberts or Judith Stone.

This group is being sponsored by the Agawam Counseling Center, a United Way Agency.

### UNICO Preparing For Macaroni Dinner



THE PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR AGAWAM UNICO's upcoming Macaroni Supper are pictured at the club's March meeting. The event is slated for Sunday, April 21st, at the Italian Sporting Club on Cooper Street. Proceeds will benefit Camp Rainbow and other charities. From left - Joe Conte, Jr., Sal Morassi, Art Chase, and Ron LaLancette. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

### Spaces Available For Junior Women's Club Arts And Crafts Fair

Crafters are sought for the Agawam Junior Women's Club's 22nd Annual Arts & Crafts Festival scheduled for Saturday, June 1st, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Festival will be held on the grounds of the Captain Charles Leonard House at 663 Main Street in Agawam. All types of artisans and crafters are invited to participate in this event. The show will be juried and feature 80 to 100 exhibitors.

Admission is free, and all proceeds benefit the AJWC Scholarship Fund. Tours of the historic Captain Charles Leonard House will be available. A Youth Art Exhibit will be on display as well.

For more information or an application, call Margaret at 786-2651 or Patti at 786-6491.

### Historical Association Plans Annual Meeting For May 14th

The Agawam Historical Association will hold its annual meeting on May 14, 1996.

The program, "Taste of History at Storowton Village Museum," will include a tour and history of the Village by costumed interpreters at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner at Storowton Tavern at 7:30 p.m.

Dinner choices are Yankee pot roast with Jardinere sauce, or boneless breast of capon with poulet sauce (dinner includes appetizer and dessert).

The cost for members is \$16, and for non-members the price is \$18.50.

Reservations and payment are required by April 20th. Mail payment to Agawam Historical Association, P.O. Box 552, Agawam, MA 01001, or call 786-6835.

### It's Prom Time April 17th



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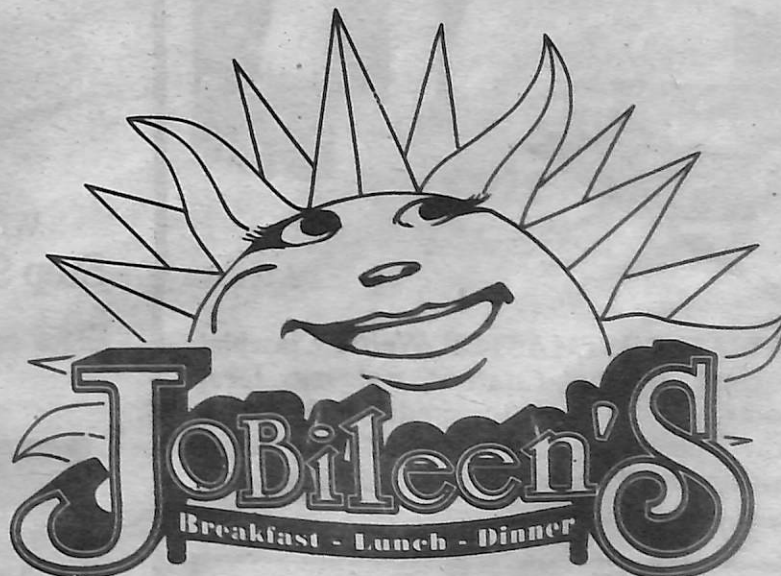
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### Open Tuesday, April 16th

Hours Of Operation

6:00 A.M. - 10:00 P.M.

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## Soil Testing To Be Conducted At Big E On Sat., April 20th

A "soil pH test" clinic will be offered on April 20, 1996 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Massachusetts Building on the "Big E" Fairgrounds. The clinic will be done by the Master Gardeners of Western Massachusetts Association.

Understanding and correcting the soil's pH can improve any gardening effort. It is the first step to having a healthy lawn. The correct soil pH will provide the basis for a bountiful vegetable garden and beautiful flowers!

It is the easiest and most successful start for any garden. Take the "mystery" out of the soil and put the gardener in control! Start with a soil pH test!

Master Gardeners will be available to conduct soil pH tests and to answer gardening questions. Anyone is welcome to bring a soil sample for pH testing.

To bring a soil sample for testing, you will need to collect it as follows:

1. Select five spots from the area to be tested, one from the center, one from each corner.
2. At each location, dig a hole five or six inches deep, and throw away this soil.
3. Make a thin slice along one side of each of the holes.
4. Mix all five slices together for your sample. Bring about one cup of soil in a plastic bag or cup.
5. Label the sample with your name and what is to be grown in that area (lawn, vegetables, flowers, etc.).

A donation of \$1 per soil sample will help cover expenses for this volunteer association.

## Antique Car Show Slated At AHS

An antique car show will take place on Sunday, April 28th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Agawam High School.

The Lions Club will have a special receptacle for used glasses near the entrance.

## Coin Show Slated For Dante Club On Sunday, April 21st

The West Springfield Coin Club will hold its Semi-Annual Coin Show at the Dante Club on Baldwin Street, West Springfield, from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 21st.

Coin dealers will be exhibiting as well as buying and selling coins and giving free appraisals. Admission is free.

The Dante Club is located across from the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition on Memorial Avenue.

For further information, contact Peter Setian at 596-9871.

\*\*\*\*\*

An important way to acquire information about a subject is to talk to knowledgeable people who are willing to spend the time to educate us.

Coin shows offer the public many knowledgeable dealers who enjoy sharing years of information to educate the public about coins. Beside their monetary value, coins contain our country's history and art.

Coin shows offer the public a valuable service by giving free verbal appraisals of coins and numismatic items. Many valuable coins have been found in unlikely places. An 1870's Half Dime was found in a junk box and sold for \$425,000. How many people have coins stashed away in dressers or special places which may be worth more than you realize? It's important to find the value of these coins, not only for your monetary gain, but to carefully preserve their condition. The condition of a coin, along with rarity, is one of the biggest factors of how much a coin is worth.

Some of the most important advice given by dealers is how to preserve coins and what not to do to your coins, such as cleaning them to look pretty.

The upcoming show at The Dante Club in West Springfield on April 21st is an excellent opportunity for the public to educate themselves free of ge. Please bring your questions and any



KAREN E. COTE & KEVIN J. RYAN

## Karen E. Cote To Wed Kevin J. Ryan

Mr. & Mrs. Richard H. Cote of Portland, Connecticut are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Karen E. Cote, to Kevin J. Ryan of Feeding Hills.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Mercy High School in Middletown and Providence College in Rhode Island, where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics. She is presently pursuing a Master of Business Administration from the University of Connecticut.

Her fiancé, son of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Ryan, is a graduate of Agawam High School and the University of Massachusetts, where he received a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science. He is currently pursuing a Master's degree in computer science from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Karen is an actuarial analyst and Kevin is a systems analyst at Phoenix Home Life Mutual Insurance Company in Hartford. The couple is planning a May 1997 wedding.

*best local news...*

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## State Representative

### Dan Keenan, Jill & New Baby Jack

*Would Like To Personally Invite The Public To Their*

### Pasta & Meatball Dinner & Campaign Kick-Off 1996

#### WHERE:

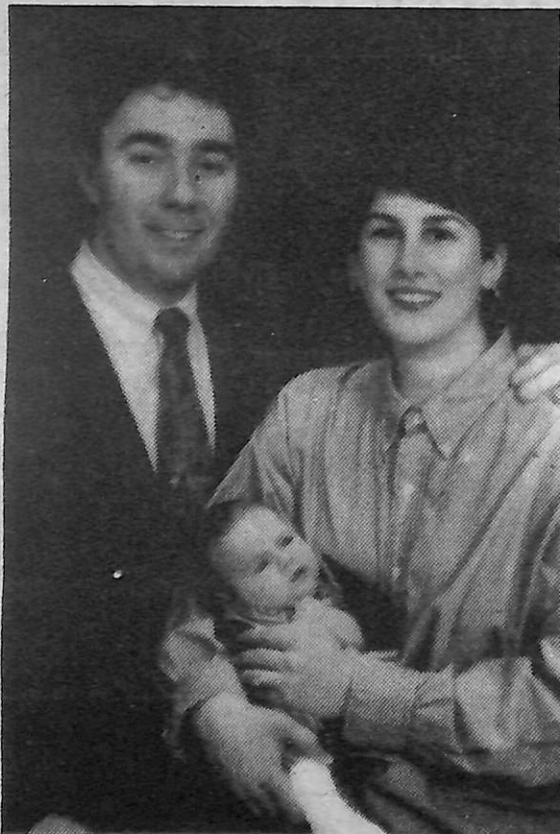
Polish American Club,  
Feeding Hills

#### WHEN:

Wed., April 24th  
5:00 - 7:00 P.M.

#### TICKETS:

Adults,  
\$5.00;  
Senior Citizens  
& Children  
Under 12,  
\$3.00



**We Hope To See You There!!**

**\*\* Tickets May Be Purchased At The Door \*\***

**\*\* Paid For By The Committee To Re-Elect Dan Keenan \*\***



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## Firefighters Union Honors Former Presidents Emeritus

The Agawam Firefighters Union Local 1973 recently honored its presidents emeritus by presenting them with plaques honoring their years of service.

The Agawam Firefighters became part of The Professional Firefighters of Massachusetts and The International Association of Firefighters, which are associated with the AFL-CIO, on May 6, 1970.

Since that time, the Agawam Firefighters have been very active in all aspects of union activity at both the state and national level. Excluding the Chief and the Deputy Chief, all members of the Agawam Fire Department belong to the Union.

Each year the Union membership elects a president, who oversees all functions of the Union, including fundraising for various local charities and organizations, contract negotiations, and the overall operations of the Union.

The first president, elected in 1970, was William Parent, followed by the longest-serving president, Alfred "Junie" Fontana, from 1971 to 1979.

They were followed by: Louis Calabrese, 1980; William Barker, Sr., 1981; Richard Weld, 1982-1983; Gene Mutti, 1984 and again in 1993; Kenneth Blair, 1985-1992; Steven Castelli, 1994-1995; and the current president, Donald "Lefty" Savaria.



AGAWAM FIREFIGHTERS UNION LOCAL 1973 recently honored its presidents emeritus with plaques for their years of dedicated service. From left - Donald Savaria, William Barker, Sr., Richard Weld, Louis Calabrese, Gene Mutti, and Steven Castelli. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

### FireWise

#### Home Safe Home by Fire Chief David Pisano

Is your home safe from fire? Most of us like to think so, but each year most people who die from fire die at home.

The Agawam Fire Department suggests that you take a few moments to check some areas of your house for hazards that could cause a fire. Overloaded electrical outlets, careless disposal of smoking materials, leaving the kitchen while the stove is in use, smoking in bed, and flammable liquids improperly stored in the house contribute to fire fatality in the home.

It only takes a minute to check your home for fire hazards. Call the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662 for more information.

## Rep. Keenan Promises To Support Local Aid Resolution For Fiscal 1997

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan has pledged his strong support of the commitment made in this year's Local Aid Resolution as Fiscal Year 1997 budget deliberations are getting underway.

The resolution, which was adopted in February, provided minimum amounts of school and municipal aid for the state's cities and towns. The Town of Agawam will receive \$7,965,769 in Chapter 70 funding for the schools, \$2,210,593 in lottery aid, and \$223,588 in additional lottery distribution funds under the Local Aid Resolution.

According to Rep. Keenan, the \$17.4 billion state budget is the number one priority for him as a legislator. "Education and aid to our local communities are my top priorities as the budget process goes forward," stated Rep. Keenan. "The investment we make in our children will assure their future in an ever-changing economic marketplace."

The increased aid to cities and towns will help to fund public safety services such as police and fire protection. Funding for schools will meet the Commonwealth's commitment to fund the Education Reform Law.

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our  
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Since 1885, we have served the community with care and dignity. As part of our continuing effort to help our families plan for, and ultimately deal with, the passing of loved ones, we want to make you familiar with this program. Call us for an appointment to discuss, with no obligation, the details of this beneficial program.

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# My Team is the Red Sox. My Bank is Hampden Savings.

Louis Dalessio of Springfield ran a shoe repair business in two downtown locations for 54 years. He is fondly known by friends and ex-customers as "Lou the Shoe."



"Mo Vaughn and his Red Sox get a lot of my attention from spring training to October. I've followed the Red Sox since I was a kid and, for me, it's a real treat to see Mo hit one out at Fenway.

I guess I can say my bank hits home runs, too. When you've served the public like I did for more than 50 years, you learn how people like to be treated. That's how I'm

treated at Hampden Savings, like they're glad to see me when I come in.

When I get Hampden's bonus interest check in November, I use it for holiday shopping. The other banks don't do that, do they? In my book, getting that extra month's interest is a big thing—as big as Mo taking the Sox to the World Series. Well, almost as big."

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## Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

**Monday, April 15th:** Senior Center closed (Patriots' Day).

**Tuesday, April 16th:** Baked chicken breast, potato puffs, carrot coins, rye bread, ice cream.

**Wednesday, April 17th:** Stuffed cabbage, mashed potatoes, corn, wheat bread, pineapple chunks.

**Thursday, April 18th:** Roast turkey, stuffing w/gravy, butternut squash, oat bread, pears.

**Friday, April 19th:** "Grandparents' Day" — Tomato soup, tuna boat, potato puffs, cake.

(Menu subject to change without notice.)

## 'I Wed Three Wives' Coming To Town For Operation Friendship

Operation Friendship's Mystery Dinner offering, "I Wed Three Wives," will be presented on Saturday, April 13, 1996 at 6:30 p.m. The show will be held at Feeding Hills Congregational Church, 21 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

Herb Fillbrook is married to three different women, all at the same time. When all three wives and Herb show up at the Feeding Hills Country Inn, all kinds of fireworks occur ... including MURDER!

Come and see if you can solve the mystery before the erstwhile Inspector. Compete with other tables to see who can win the evening's prize.

Ticket are \$12.50, including dinner. This has to be one of the best entertainment values in Agawam. Don't miss out!

Call 786-0195 or 789-3128 for reservations. (Please leave a name and telephone number if you get an answering machine.)

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## Nursing Home Residents Enjoy Irish Dance



RESIDENTS OF THE CENTER FOR Rehabilitation and Nursing Care in West Springfield recently enjoyed a visit to celebrate St. Patrick's Day from the McDermott School of Irish Dancing. Dancers of all ages performed. From left - Hazel Rogers, resident; Caitlin Irujo from McDermott School; and Hanna Bono, resident.

*IF YOU WISH TO SUBSCRIBE, please call us right away and we have a special deal for you. We will bring you ALL the hometown news right to your mailbox each week.*

## Agawam Federal Credit Union

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## 40th Anniversary Celebration

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MEMBERS ONLY:

(Tickets Are Limited)

Come to the Credit Union and join the celebration. Sign up to win a color TV or a VCR. Lucky winners to be announced at our buffet at **Alexander's** on **May 4, 1996**. Cocktails 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.; buffet 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person. Music by disc jockey. Purchase tickets at the Credit Union or from any member of the Board of Directors.



## Local Waldbaum's To Hold Fundraiser For "Lucky Duck Race"

Area residents can "adopt" a rubber duck in Baystate Health Systems' seventh annual Lucky Duck Race, worth over \$21,000 in prizes, over the next few weeks when visiting a variety of locations in their community.

This year's Lucky Duck Race is co-sponsored by Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, Inc.

Proceeds from the Lucky Duck Race, which will be held on Saturday, May 11th, will benefit Baystate Medical Center Children's Hospital through the Children's Miracle Network Telethon.

In Agawam, a fundraiser for this upcoming worthwhile event will be held at Waldbaum's on Sunday, April 21st, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Adoption papers can also be picked up at participating Wendy's, Subways, Pride Station and Stores, and other Waldbaum's supermarkets.

The first prize is a cruise for two to the Western Caribbean on Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines, donated by WorldTek Travel and Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines. Over \$15,000 in cash prizes will be awarded to 10 other lucky winners.

The "Lucky Duck" race will splash down from the Memorial Bridge at 12:00 noon and will end at Riverfront Park near the Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield.

For more information, call 784-DUCK.

## New Mothers Can Get Regular Support From La Leche League

La Leche League groups meet monthly throughout the United States and the world. Local group leaders are volunteers who have nursed their own babies and have learned to help other mothers with breastfeeding questions and problems.

Group meetings feature open-ended discussions about breastfeeding and related aspects of child care. Babies are welcome.

The West Springfield-Agawam La Leche League will have their next meeting on Monday, April 15th at 7:30 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, Westfield St., West Springfield.

For more information, call Jeanne at 739-7923 or Chris at 736-3238.

## Pack 78 Planning Car Wash

Cub Scout Pack 78 of Feeding Hills will hold their annual car wash in the Partners Restaurant parking lot, located at 485 Springfield Street, Agawam, on Saturday, April 20th, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

This year, the Scouts will also be holding a newspaper and refundable bottle/can recycling drive. These items can be dropped off during the car wash.

The recycling drive is being run by Den 1 Webelos as part of their Conservation Award requirement. Half of the money raised from the recycling drive will be donated to the Agawam/ West Springfield Open Pantry.

Please come and support the Cub Scouts.

## Feeding Hills Students In "Carnival" At MacDuffie School

The MacDuffie School Theater will be presenting its spring musical, "Carnival," on April 19th, 20th, and 21st.

"Carnival" was a Broadway musical in the early 1960's which starred Anna Maria Alberghetti and Jerry Orbach in the early stages of their careers. The musical is a love story which takes place in a European circus, complete with clowns, roustabouts, puppets, and magic.

There are musical numbers, with the most famous being "Love Makes the World Go 'Round." There are over 60 cast members, including Stefanie Goyette and Melody Serafino (both of Feeding Hills).

Stefanie plays "Phoophy Clown," a magic show volunteer, and is a member of the chorus. Melody plays "Lili" (one of the lead characters), who is a naive young woman who joins the circus.

One hour before each performance, there will be an actual carnival with games, food, and carnival characters.

Showtimes are Friday, April 19th, at 8:00 p.m.; Saturday, April 20th, at 8:00 p.m.; and Sunday, April 21st, at 3:00 p.m. Admission is \$7 for adults, and \$5 for students and senior citizens. (This show is not appropriate for young children.)

For ticket reservations, call 735-1724 (call early). The MacDuffie Theater is located on The MacDuffie School campus at 4 Ames Hill Drive (off Maple Street) in Springfield.

## Community Grange Plans Tag & Bake Sale On Sat., April 27th

Community Grange No. 382 of Feeding Hills will hold a Tag and Bake Sale on Saturday, April 27th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Grange Hall located at 47 North West Street in Feeding Hills.

This sale will benefit various community projects and the Scholarship Fund. A snack bar will also be available.



The Agawam Senior Games Athletes will hold a two-day tag sale in the Agawam Senior Center on Saturday and Sunday, April 13th and 14th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Come one, come all!

## Home Builders Set Annual Sports Night For April 16th

The Home Builders Association of Western Massachusetts will hold its Annual Sports Night membership meeting on Tuesday, April 16, 1996 at the Carriage House, Storowton Tavern in West Springfield at 6:00 p.m.

John Hannah, a powerhouse guard from Alabama, played for the Patriots from 1973-1985. He was the team's first round pick and the fourth player selected in the 1973 NFL draft. During his career, he became widely recognized as the premier guard in pro football. He is the only Patriots player to be elected to the Football Hall of Fame, and just last year was named to the Patriots "All Time Team."

Manny's Electronics & Appliances will be hosting this event. For additional information, please call the Home Builders Association of Western Massachusetts at (413) 733-3126.

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Reflections... submitted by  
Rev. Peter Monahan  
Pastor of the Church  
of the Apostles,  
Suffield, CT  
(860) 668-4444 or  
(413) 786-8735

Challenging the "revisionists"

Readers of the popular news magazines were subjected last week to the standard Easter fare of Biblical record of Jesus' resurrection. These revisionists try to deny the facts by claiming the story of Jesus' resurrection was invented by the Church for its own propaganda purposes. However, an examination of the record demonstrates that this charge simply is not true. First of all, consider the fact of history that the Apostle Peter emerged as an undisputed leader of the early Church. Yet the Bible is repeatedly unflattering of Peter. In painful detail, Peter is variously described as impetuous, foolish, and cowardly. This can hardly be considered public relations propaganda material. None of us would care to have our shortcomings recorded for all to see!

The Bible consistently tells it like it is: the good, the bad, and the ugly. It is 180 degrees off-course to call the Bible accounts surrounding the Resurrection and the main actors involved "propaganda." That clearly is not true.

The Bible clearly shows that the disciples did not grasp the reality of Jesus' resurrection right away. It seems it took repeated appearances of Jesus to convince them.

Even after Peter had encountered the Risen Christ, he announced to his friends "I am going out to fish." He was not speaking of recreational fishing; what Peter was saying is, "I'm going back to my old life, my occupation. The past three years were great, but it's over." The other disciples quickly agreed.

It was this same Peter (a walking combination of rejection, defection, and fear) who, seven weeks later, stood before the crowds in Jerusalem proclaiming Jesus' resurrection. Peter's declaration was made in Jerusalem, where the events occurred; in the one place in the entire world where the level of interest in this subject was the greatest!

Peter might have gone to the remote countryside to announce the news, but he didn't. Public relations specialists test market new ideas or products away from the center of interest. They would call it foolish or clumsy to do it Peter's way. But that's because Peter and the rest of Jesus' disciples were not public relations people with a story to tell; a story they themselves did not immediately fully understand.

All they knew was that once Jesus was dead, but he was not dead anymore. That one fact altered their plans to go back to their old lives and propelled them to history's stage.

There are other first-hand witnesses. James, the younger brother of Jesus who didn't believe in Him during His earthly ministry, but became one of the chief Apostles, along with Paul.

One of the few rules of the early Church was that an Apostle had to be a witness to Jesus' resurrection. In their own ways, both James and Paul were initially reluctant to believe, but became convinced.

That Jesus was actually raised from the dead. Their beliefs changed, then ultimately cost them their lives.

Rather than challenge the veracity of the witnesses of the first century, we might ask if it is not the revisionists with vivid imaginations who are the real propagandists!

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"Hi! I'm Sheryl. I've been a member of Healthy Habits for 6 months. In this time, I have enjoyed working out and I've lost 75 pounds. I find the staff very helpful and motivating, and I love the facility. Joining Healthy Habits was the best thing I could have ever done for myself."

Ladies, Getting ready for summer fun? Need to shape up or lose a few pounds? Call Healthy Habits for your FREE trial visit. Enjoy our complete fitness program, then relax in our beautiful heated pool and giant Jacuzzi. Find out how easily our exercise and nutrition program works.



THE ST. JOHN'S CHURCH PLAYGROUP enjoyed an Easter Egg Hunt on Tuesday, March 26th. The playgroup meets in the Parish Center on Tuesday mornings. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

This Week's Calendar From St. David's

**JOIN ST. DAVID'S CHURCH AS WE CELEBRATE THE RISEN LORD Jesus Christ in worship services this weekend, April 13th-14th.**

The normally quiet, contemporary service at 5:00 p.m. will give way this week as we celebrate with joy the 11 young people who will receive their First Communion this day.

The dignified, traditional service on Sunday at 8:00 a.m. is, like the Saturday service, held at the church building, 522 Springfield Street in Feeding Hills, and also features the Holy Communion. The exuberant, contemporary service at 10:00 a.m. is held at the Agawam Middle School, and features Holy Communion, children's Nursery School for grades Pre-K through 8, nursery care, and intercession for the dead.

At all services, the Pastor will talk about how, in life as in faith, "Seeing is often not believing."

**EASTER CONTINUES AT ST. DAVID'S** for seven full weeks after this Sunday, until we celebrate the first outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost in May.

Those new to the faith or those inquiring about it may want to take part in one of the numerous parish Bible studies or small groups, in order to deepen one's awareness of the Risen Jesus in our midst.

**THOSE WISHING TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ST. DAVID'S CHURCH** are welcome to join us this Sunday at 9:00 a.m. at the Agawam Middle School and to hear and receive information about the parish, and to have some of your questions answered. Call Karen Davis or the Parish Office by Monday if you wish to come. Newcomers who have been attending for the past year have already been invited. Please let us know if you'll be coming!

The "CHRISTIAN FORMATION" CLASS has resumed on Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., focusing over the next six weeks on the cornerstone of life in Christ: worship, ministry, and fellowship.

Call the office if you would like to join this class, especially if you are new to Christ or to St. David's.

**A SEMINAR ON THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT** will be held on Saturday, April 20th, in order to equip believers for their mission and ministry in Christ.

Call the office and ask to be put in touch with Mary-Ann Poggi for further information.

**Check our classified pages**

Follow our successful exercise weight loss and nutrition program and get the results you deserve!

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Ladies, Getting ready for summer fun? Need to shape up or lose a few pounds? Call Healthy Habits for your FREE trial visit. Enjoy our complete fitness program, then relax in our beautiful heated pool and giant Jacuzzi. Find out how easily our exercise and nutrition program works.



**Church News - continued...****Weekly Calendar From Ag. Congregational**

Worship service continues at 10:30 a.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

This Sunday, April 14th, is the second Sunday of Easter. This will also be Communion Sunday.

Rev. Fuller's sermon will be "We Walk By Faith And Not By Sight," taken from John 20:19-25, and the children's message will be "In God We Trust."

The Lenten folders will be dedicated, during the offering, at this Sunday's worship service. Money collected will go toward the "One Great Hour of Sharing" fund.

\*\*\*

Country Line Dancing continues each Friday night through May 10th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. "Millie and the Gang" will teach you all the new dance steps. Join in the fun, put your dancing shoes on, and stop by.

The cost is \$5 at the door. Refreshments are available, and child care is provided for an extra fee.

\*\*\*

A Vacation Bible Camp will be held on Friday, April 19th, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

This year's theme is "Loaves & Fishes." All children ages three to sixth grade are welcome. The cost is \$3 per child (\$8 maximum per family).

Call the church office to register today!

\*\*\*

A Recognition Dinner for Bob Quigley, Jr., for his 42 years of church service on the Property Committee, will be held on Saturday, April 27th, at 6:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$7 each. Tickets are limited to 200, so get your tickets early. Call the church office at 786-7111.

\*\*\*

A Variety Auction will be held on Sunday, April 28th, following worship service and coffee hour in Fellowship Hall. Items, talents, and services for the auction are needed. Call the church office for more information or to donate your items.

This is a fundraiser for camperships for children and youth. Samples of items and services for the Variety Auction: airplane rides, vacations at the Cape, gourmet dinner at home, movie passes, crafts, baked goods, and more.

**Joanne Szymanski**

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Monday Nights  
7 P.M.

**Our Lady Of The Lake Parish**

224 Sheep Pasture Rd.,  
Southwick

**An "Original" Valley Community Church Member Moves Away**

Valley Community Church is disappointed to announce that one of our "founding members" has moved away.

Helen Anderson has sold her home in town and has moved to New York State.

Helen joined Valley Community Church at the first membership installation back in 1962. Over the past 34 years, she has actively served on most of the communities and clubs within the church.

A Farewell Party was held for Helen on Sunday, March 31st, in Dunn Hall. And although we are all saddened by her move, she has left behind some very special memories to hold in our hearts. Her quiet strength and presence within this church will be missed by all.

**Spaghetti Supper To Be Held At Agawam United Methodist**

The Agawam Methodist Church will have a spaghetti and meatball supper on Saturday, April 20th, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

For reservations, call Dana Henry at 789-0684.

**Church Bake Sale For Bethany Assembly**

A Spring Craft and Bake Sale will be held at the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main St., Agawam, on Saturday, April 20th from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to benefit the Bethany Assembly of God missions' program.

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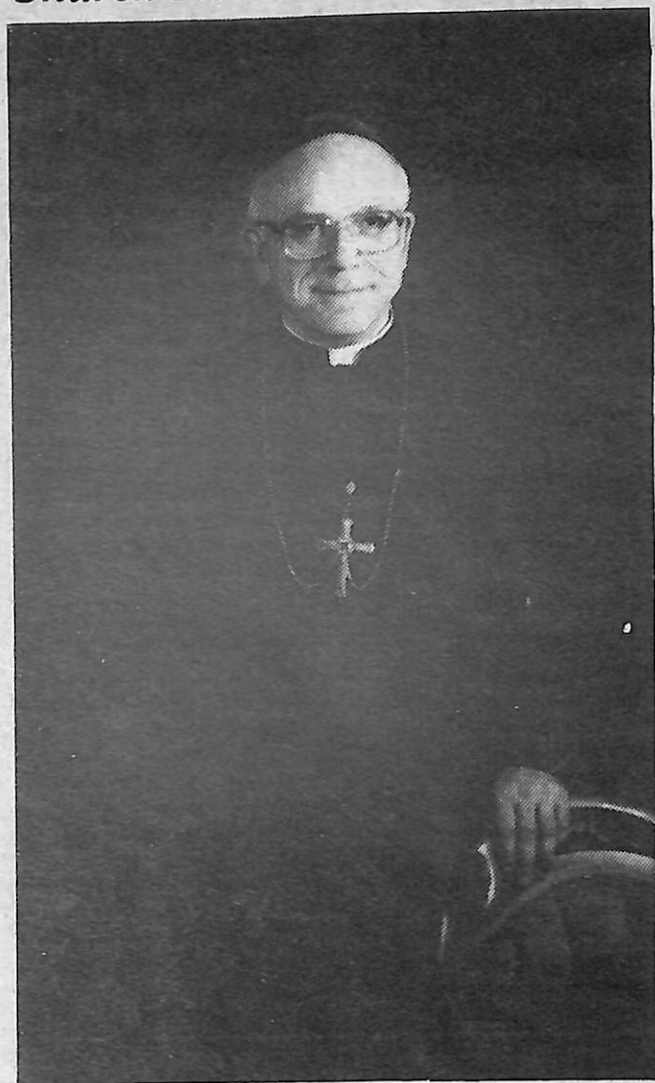
Sunday, 1 pm - 9 pm

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## Church News - continued...



BISHOP THOMAS DUPRE

## Bishop Thomas Dupre To Celebrate Mass At St. John's Church

Springfield Diocesan Bishop Thomas Dupre will celebrate Mass at St. John the Evangelist Church in Agawam on Sunday, April 21, 1996 at 2:00 p.m.

The Mass will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first Mass said at St. John's on Easter Sunday, April 21, 1946. A reception will follow the Mass in St. John's Parish Center, hosted by the Catholic Women's Club and St. John's Guild members.

The public is invited to attend this milestone in the history of St. John the Evangelist Parish.

*Check our classified ads every week for the best in local goods and services ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!*

## News And Notes From F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills.

Adult Bible Literacy class begins at 9:00 a.m., as does Sunday School for children. A morning worship service begins at 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Donaldson's sermon is entitled "We Are Stardust." Children are welcome to join their parents in worship. Younger children may leave at the designated time to work on a special activity with the Youth Director, Patsy Traficante.

Nursery care will be provided as usual.

The Youth Group will serve up a delicious pancake breakfast on Saturday, April 13th, from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. in Griswold Hall at the church.

This is a monthly fundraiser for the young people and a scrumptious breakfast for you!

April 14th is Open Pantry Sunday. We will take our monthly collection of usable clothing, groceries, and cash donations to be given to the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry.

The Ladies Benevolent Society will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, April 15th, at 1:00 p.m. Hostesses will be Betty Bava, Marjorie Taylor, and Evelyn Vincelette. Bernice Burton will be the chairwoman.

Health kits, which will be sent to Church World Service, will be put together.

On the calendar this week:

**Sunday, April 14th:** 9:00 a.m., Sunday School/Adult Bible Literacy; 11:30 a.m., Christian Ed Board meeting; Youth Group visit to nursing home; 4:00 p.m. Cub Scouts Blue & Gold Banquet.

**Monday, April 15th:** 1:00 p.m., Ladies Benevolent Society; 5:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:30 p.m., Big E Committee.

**Tuesday, April 16th:** 7:00 p.m., A.A.

**Wednesday, April 17th:** 2:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Music Committee; 7:00 p.m., Choir; 7:45 p.m., Cub Scout Committee.

**Thursday, April 18th:** 7:30 p.m., Deacons; 7:30 p.m., Organizational/Restructuring Committee.

**Friday, April 19th:** Rev. Donaldson's day off.

## Dominican Nuns To Hold Family Hour Of Prayer On April 15th

The monthly hour of prayer and song for the families of the world will be held at the Dominican Nuns' Monastery Chapel in West Springfield on Sunday, April 15th, beginning at 4:00 p.m.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

The service will include the singing of evening prayer, as well as the recitation of the Rosary and Benediction.

For further information, call (413) 736-3639.

*Check our classified*

## A Message From Ag. United Methodist

From Reverend Reuben Telemaque, Pastor of Agawam United Methodist Church:

"The message of Easter continues to live on because it lives in the hearts of Christians. The empty tomb created fear, coldness, and suspicion. The calling of the name 'Mary' was enough to kindle warmth and to begin a new relationship.

"The companions on their way to Emmaus were sad and fearful. They trusted Jesus to be the one who would have redeemed the nation, but this was the third day that he was crucified. Jesus broke bread with them. They recognized his presence.

"I have emphasized here not scientific evidence of Resurrection, but personal experience of a meeting with the Living Christ.

"The fact defies scientific explanation in that even as science increases and its methods become modernized, more and more people are having the living experience that changes their way of life. In fact, the world has never been the same since the Resurrection story was told.

"One will not disagree that critics have also multiplied. But in spite of heresies, persecution of Christians, and ostracisms, the experience of the new heart, of new life, of a positive approach to the Kingdom of God, continues to grow.

"The Christian approach to the world's social problems—to racism, to hunger, to greed, and to all that tends to destroy human dignity—produces lasting solutions."

Worship begins at 9:30 a.m. The Sunday School assembly is at the same time.

Nursery care is provided.

The Freedom Choir presents a concert at the Agawam United Methodist Church at 5:00 p.m. on April 21st. Everyone is invited.

Please make your reservation by calling 786-4174.

## Valley Comm. Church Slates Next Chicken Supper For April 13th

Valley Community Church will be holding its next "community famous" chicken supper this Saturday, April 13th.

The serving table will be filled with baked chicken, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, two hot vegetables, tossed salad, pickles, cranberry sauce, olives, bread and butter, and a beverage.

After eating your supper, you then must go to the second serving table which is filled to overflowing with intriguing, enticing, guaranteed-fattening desserts and make a choice.

The chicken supper is served continuously from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., with reservations very strongly suggested by calling the church office at 786-2445 or Shirley Taylor at 786-2576. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children.

Valley Community Church is located "high on a hilltop" at 152 South Westfield Street.

## Agawam UNICO's Annual 32nd



## Macaroni & Sausage Dinner

Sunday, April 21  
Italian Sporting Club  
Cooper St., Agawam

Tickets: Adults: \$5  
Seniors: \$4  
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Proceeds Go To Benefit: The Agawam UNICO, Its Many Charities, And THE FRIENDS OF CAMP RAINBOW

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Church News - continued...

## This Week At First Baptist Church

Rev. Richard Barnes will speak on "Dry Bones No More" at the 9:30 a.m. Sunday worship service this week at First Baptist Church.

The scriptural text will be taken from Ezekiel 37: 1-14. Following worship, classes will be held for all ages.

As usual, a coffee hour will be held in Davis Hall. Nursery care is always available.

\*\*\*

On our calendar this week:

**Tuesday, April 16th:** 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 6:30 p.m., Mr. & Mrs. Club dinner & meeting.

**Wednesday, April 17th:** 7:15 a.m., Mid-Week Prayer Time (Chapel); 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open.

**Thursday, April 18th:** 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 5:00 p.m., Youth depart for Michael W. Smith concert in Worcester; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

**Friday, April 19th:** 7:30 p.m., Mood Swing Concert (Admission - \$4 plus food item).

**Saturday, April 20th:** 8:30 a.m., Youth Groups Habitat Work Day; Spring meeting of the Pioneer Valley Association of American Baptist Women at Beulah Baptist Church in Chicopee.

\*\*\*

On Sunday, April 21st, the annual spring celebration of the American Baptist Churches of Pioneer Valley will be held at First Park Memorial Baptist Church, corner of Forest Park Avenue and Garfield Street, Springfield.

Registration begins at 4:00 p.m., followed by the annual business meeting, dinner, and evening meeting.

The speaker will be Dr. Norman DePuy, who will speak on "It's a Question of Options—Can The Church Change in a Changing World?"

## Nocturnal Adoration To Pray April 12th At St. Ann's Church

The Nocturnal Adoration Society of Agawam and West Springfield will meet at Saint Ann's Church, Memorial Avenue, West Springfield to conduct and pray the Office of the Blessed Sacrament, Friday, April 12th, from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m.

All are invited to come and spend an hour in Eucharistic Adoration.

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## Rummage Sale Set For Sacred Heart Church On April 18th

There will be a Rummage Sale on Thursday, April 18th at the Parish Center of Sacred Heart Church (Rt. 57 at Poplar St.), Feeding Hills.

The sale will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and again from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., when a bag can be filled for \$2.

All sorts of spring clothing will be offered. Also, a white elephant room will offer many treasures. The event is sponsored by members of Sacred Heart Church.

## United Methodists Plan Rummage Sale For April 27th

The Agawam United Methodist Church (across from the High School) at 459 Mill Street, Agawam, will hold its Spring Rummage and Bake Sale on Saturday, April 27th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

There will be clothing for the entire family, jewelry, decorative items, small appliances, and furniture for the home, books, toys, attic treasures, as well as cakes, cookies, pies, and candy made by the ladies of the church.

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## Spotlight On Business

### Coldwell-Molta Introduces CB Online To Help Customers

Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates, Inc. has announced that it will now require all of their homes listed for sale on the Internet, making them more accessible to the Greater Springfield consumers and home shoppers worldwide.

The Coldwell Banker Internet web site, called "Coldwell Banker Online™," can be accessed at <http://www.coldwellbanker.com>

The Coldwell Banker home page allows computer users worldwide to instantly access home information, color photographs, and send messages to Coldwell Banker from the comfort of a home or office, seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Consumers visiting the Coldwell Banker home page are encouraged to find the homes of their dreams simply by entering specific criteria, such as city, number of bedrooms, or price range. The easy to use, interactive system provides home buyers with immediate property information that matches their criteria.

Consumers seeking additional information can instantaneously send an electronic message directly to the company. In addition, a mortgage calculator is available to help consumers determine how much home they can afford.

Earlier this year, Coldwell Banker Corp. became the first national real estate company to introduce a proprietary World Wide Web site on the Internet. Keenan & Molta Associates unveiled the Western Massachusetts site at the Spring Home Show '96.

Whether the consumer was browsing, buying, or selling, professional real estate sales associates were there to greet and demonstrate the latest technology.

"Consumers want information on their own terms in a time frame that fits their busy schedules," said Kathy Rose, Home Show '96 coordinator for Keenan & Molta Associates.

"With the Internet, Coldwell Banker listings here in Western Massachusetts are more accessible to home buyers, while home sellers receive additional exposure for their properties at no additional cost," said Rose.

The web site also features valuable consumer information on interest rates and tips on buying and selling a home.

In addition to serving as a national database of properties for sale that are accessible to a worldwide audience of more than 40 million people, the Coldwell Banker web site also uniquely serves as an internal communications platform that can link its offices with more than 2,400 company owned and franchised offices throughout North America.

For local real estate information, call Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates or visit us on our home page <http://www.coldwellbanker.com>



ROBERT MOLTA, president of Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates, Inc., is pictured at the recent Western Mass. Home Show in the Better Living Center of the Big E. Molta said all of their homes listed for sale will be available on the internet.

### Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates Selected As Premier Real Estate Office

Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates has been selected as the Coldwell Banker Premiere Office, the highest honor given to Coldwell Banker real estate offices that consistently demonstrate exceptional performance and dedication.

Robert Romanowski, vice-president of Coldwell Banker, presented Robert P. Molta, president of Keenan & Molta Associates, with the Premiere Office Award at the company's international business conference, recently held in San Francisco, California. More than 7,000 sales associates, brokers, managers, and employees attended the event that also celebrated the company's 90th anniversary.

"The Premiere Office designation is the most impressive honor among Coldwell Banker affiliate offices," said Romanowski, adding, "Bob Molta and the sales associate team at Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates have established a standard of excellence for offices throughout the Coldwell Banker system."

For local real estate information, call Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates at 1-413-569-0138.

Coldwell Banker has more than 2,400 residential real estate offices and more than 58,000 sales associates and employees throughout the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico.

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Spotlight On Business - continued...



ANN CHAPDELAINE

## Ann Chapdelaine Joins Coldwell Banker & Molta Associates

We are pleased to announce and welcome Ann Chapdelaine as a new associate with our company, COLDWELL BANKER & MOLTA ASSOC.

Ann has over 20 years of experience in all aspects of real estate transactions and has earned the very honored designation of a Certified Residential Specialist (CRS). She looks forward to continuing this practice with her previous clients and customers and new ones as well.

Please call Ann for her professional and personalized service at our Agawam office, located at 342 Springfield Street, Agawam. Or you can phone the office at 789-9890. She'll be ready to go to work for you.



JOAN LUCHINI

## Joan Luchini Named Agawam Manager Of Coldwell Banker

COLDWELL BANKER KEENAN & MOLTA ASSOC. announces that Joan M. Luchini, GRI, CRS has recently taken the position of Manager of the Agawam office.

Joan is excited about working as a team not only with the great Agawam Sales Associates, but with the five offices of the company.

Join us in welcoming Joan—SUPPORT YOU CAN COUNT ON!

## Preliminary Design For Bikeway Project Expected In Early May

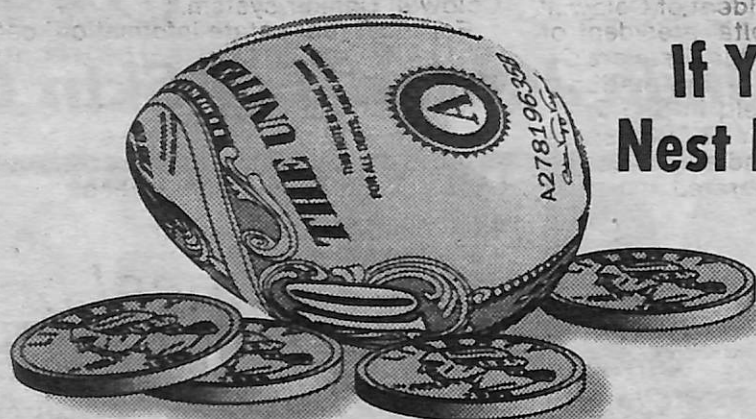
Joseph Superneau, project manager at Vanesse, Hangen Brustlin (VHB), the firm retained to prepare the designs for Phase I of the Connecticut Riverwalk and Bikeway, reports that the preliminary design plan for the project should be ready at the beginning of May.

VHB was hired by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission to commence work on the Connecticut Riverwalk in December 1995. Given the harsh winter, survey work, the first step in preparing the preliminary design plan, was not completed until early spring 1996.

During the month of April, VHB will begin to prepare preliminary plans for the section of the Riverwalk to be located along River Road in Agawam. This section will be situated primarily on land owned by Hampden County and located on the Connecticut River side of River Road. The remainder of Phase I will be located in the public layout of River Road. Meetings with residents will be held in early to mid-May. A walk of the proposed route of Phase I will also be scheduled at the beginning of May.

Members of the Connecticut Riverwalk and Bikeway Committee are also attending meetings of local civic organizations to answer questions regarding the proposed facility. To schedule a speaker for a meeting or to receive more information concerning the Riverwalk, please call the Office of Planning and Community Development at 786-0400, ext. 283.

*We do not take classifieds over the phone. Please mail to Box 263, FH 01030 or stop by our office*



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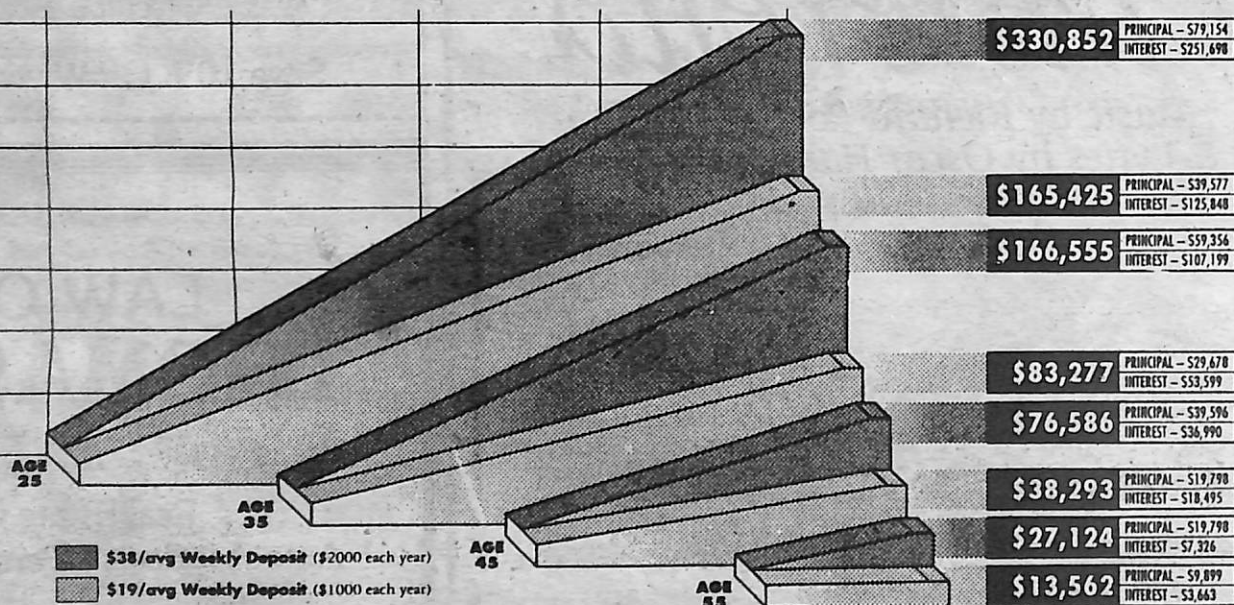
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### About the Growth Graph

- Graph for illustrative purposes only.
- Nest egg dollar totals based on 6% interest. (The average rate of Hampden's 12 month CD over the past 10 years ending 12/31/95 was 6.14%.) Actual accumulated dollars can be greater or less than examples depending upon rates prevailing during the plan.
- Graph assumes voluntary termination of plan at age 65, through continuation of a tax-deferred IRA is allowed by the IRS to age 70½.
- All deposit and withdrawal conditions, limitations and penalties that apply to IRAs also apply to the *Easy Does It* retirement plan.



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## Working With Your Real Estate Attorney

Purchasing or selling a home will probably be one of your largest and most important transactions. Before signing a purchase and sale agreement, both buyer and seller should consult an attorney to assure that the real estate transaction will be handled legally and professionally.

Although an attorney is not a required part of the process, particularly in some states where escrow companies will attend to all closing transactions details, an attorney can protect your interests and help you resolve any potential legal problems before entering a legally binding contract.

Sometimes buyers feel the need to sign a contract quickly and don't have time to initially consult an attorney. In these cases, buyers can include language in the contract that will allow their attorney time to give final approval on the agreement—usually within five to seven days. This allows both buyers and sellers to expedite the contract process without fear of inadequate representation.

Sellers and buyers alike should familiarize themselves with the real estate transaction process before selecting an attorney. Learning the formal steps in the transaction will help the buyers and sellers choose the right attorney and proceed with confidence.

Throughout the process, attorneys should attend to a variety of responsibilities, including con-

sultation prior to the signing of the contract, preparing or approving the contract, examining documents, and supervising the closing of the transaction.

The attorney should be responsible for preparing or evaluating documents which are necessary for completing transfer of the property. There are usually several documents to prepare in any real estate transaction, and the attorney can evaluate and explain each document to the buyer or seller whom he or she represents.

The deed, the bill of sale, mortgage, promissory note, title commitment, and the closing statement are only a few of the important documents that an attorney should review with the seller or buyer prior to the closing.

One of the attorney's most important responsibilities in the real estate transaction is to determine the condition of the seller's title to the property. Through this process, the attorney will discover if the seller is the legal owner of the property and if there is an unpaid mortgage or lien which must be settled before the title to the property can be properly transferred. The attorney will also discover any restrictions or easements which are on the property and the status of any unpaid property taxes.

The attorney's duty in any real estate transaction is to provide legal expertise. Through sound advice and thorough execution of all legal responsibilities, a good attorney will help you complete your transaction swiftly and with confidence.

The attorney's duty in any real estate transaction is to provide legal expertise. Through sound advice and thorough execution of all legal responsibilities, a good attorney will help you complete your transaction swiftly and with confidence. (John Schuler is the Broker/Owner of CENTURY 21 Newschu Real Estate, Inc., located in the Southgate Plaza, Agawam, MA [413-789-1171].)

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## Topper's To Open A Carry-Out Window

Topper's Ice Cream and Frozen Yogurt announces the addition of a carry-out window. This convenience will be in operation beginning on Saturday, April 13th.

Topper's also has extended business hours for the busy summer season. The store will be open everyday from 11:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. (10:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday).

Topper's is located at 312 Springfield Street, Agawam (across from Rowley Street and Axler's Bike Shop).

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## For Your Health

### Jack Sarat Raises Over \$3,000 For Telethon To Benefit Easter Seal

Jack Sarat, Sarat Ford Sales, Agawam, helped make the 1996 Easter Seal Telethon in Springfield a great success.

Sarat raised over \$3,000 of the \$404,000 total raised at the Telethon on March 3rd.

Sarat, former Telethon Chairman, has been an Easter Seal volunteer for seven years. He is presently serving as Assistant Treasurer of the state Easter Seal Board of Directors.

"When you raise money for Easter Seals, you know that 87 cents of every dollar pays for programs for men, women, and children with disabilities here in our community."

Those services include physical and occupational therapy, stroke support groups, summer camp, speech therapy, equipment loan, home health care, swim programs, technology for independence, and information and referral services.

### Cholesterol Screening At Baystate Medical's Blood Donor Center

Area residents can help keep blood supplies plentiful this fall, while keeping their health in check with a free cholesterol screening from the Blood Donor Center at Baystate Medical Center.

Baystate's Blood Donor Center is located on the first floor of the Centennial Building and is open Monday, Thursday, & Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

"Our community has a tremendous need for blood donors. At Baystate Medical Center alone, over 3,000 patients require more than 29,000 transfusions each year," said William Montillo, Outreach Coordinator, Department of Pathology, Baystate Medical Center. "There is no substitute for human blood, and our community relies strictly upon volunteer donors."

Transportation is available for groups of four or more. For more information or for an appointment, call 784-4901.



JACK SARAT (left), president of Sarat Ford Sales, Inc., of Agawam, holds a check for \$1,000 at the Easter Seal Telethon held last month. Pictured with Sarat is Dan Elias, master of ceremonies for the telethon and News 22 anchorman.

### Diabetes Support At Noble Hospital On Tuesday, April 23rd

Noble Hospital's Diabetes Support Group meet Tuesday, April 23rd at 1:00 p.m. in Noble Hospital's Conference Room A on the ground floor.

Gayle O'Hara, RN, Noble Hospital's new certified diabetes educator, will lead the support groups and coordinate occasional special speakers.

The Diabetes Support Group is free and open to individuals with diabetes and their spouse or support persons. Registration is not necessary.

For more information about the diabetes support group, please call the Nursing Administration Department at 568-2811, ext. 5754.

### Cancer Support Group At Noble Hospital On Thursday, April 18th

Noble Hospital's Cancer Support Group will meet Thursday, April 18th at 7:00 p.m. in the hospital's Auditorium A, located on the ground floor of the hospital.

The monthly support group is open to individuals with cancer, and their families or support persons. Nancy Ferguson, M.Ed., is the group facilitator.

Registration is not required. For further information, please contact Ana Nunez, R.N., oncology at Noble Hospital, 568-2811, ext. 5698.

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**Avoiding Injury, Spasm & Pain**

We have all seen the amazing strength, flexibility, and grace in the body movements of a highly trained gymnast. But we rarely stop to appreciate that this movement is only possible when the bones and muscles work together and are held in place by healthy ligaments, tendons, and cartilage.

Without healthy muscle ligaments, tendons, and cartilage, even the simplest, everyday movement can result in debilitating pain or injury.

**Injury**  
There are a variety of ways that injury to the lower back may occur:

1) **A herniated disk:** A chronic weakening of the outer sheath of the disk allows the softer center portion of the disk to bulge through, pressing on a nerve exiting the spine and causing severe pain.

2) **A degenerated disk:** Over time the entire structure of the disk has become so weak and thin that it no longer provides the proper separation and shock-absorbing effect between the vertebrae. As a result, the vertebrae develop microfractures and bone spurs and are susceptible to improper movement that may result in painful misalignment.

3) **Weakness of spinal ligaments and tendons:** A chronic weakening of ligaments and tendons may contribute to overall structural instability, making a person susceptible to improper bone movement and painful misalignment. Laxity of ligaments and tendons may also occur in any other joint such as the shoulder, elbow, knee, etc.

The degree of repair and regeneration is greatly dependent on a person's biomechanical function; i.e., proper bone alignment and joint movement.

**Muscle spasm**

When injured, we may adjust our posture into a position that will help to relieve the pain and compensate for our poor mechanical function. This, along with poor muscle nourishment, may create muscular stress that triggers spasm, cramping, and muscle pain.

It may also cause a worsening of the original injury and greater pain.

**Some suggestions to help avoid injury, muscle spasm, and pain**

1. Take care to achieve and maintain your body's optimal biomechanical function, focusing on accurate bone alignment and proper joint movement.

2. Nourish your various tissues (cartilage, ligaments, tendons, and muscles) with nutrients which may support their ability to heal and their prolonged health and vitality.

3. Exercise regularly, even if it is only a simple range of motion. Movement is essential to accomplish the delivery of nutrients to—and the removal of waste products from—the cells found in the cartilage of the intervertebral disk.

4. Reduce stress as much as is possible. Adequate rest following exercise may help promote thorough delivery of nourishment to the cells of the connective tissues.

**Dr. Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. She is available to answer questions on Monday and Wednesday from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. at 786-4820.**

**Food  
for  
Thought**

by Nancy Dell  
Registered Dietician

**Consumers Urged To Consider  
"Golden Rules" Of Nutrition**

Before reacting to nutrition studies that paint a grim picture of the American dinner table, lunch counter, and breakfast nook, consumers are advised by The American Dietetic Association (ADA) to consider the 10 red flags to spot "junk" science.

The 10 red flags of junk science are:

1. Recommendations that promise a quick fix.
2. Dire warnings of danger from a single product or regimen.
3. Claims that sound too good to be true.
4. Simplistic conclusions drawn from a complex study.
5. Recommendations based on a single study.
6. Dramatic statements that are refuted by reputable scientific organizations.
7. Lists of "good" and "bad" foods.
8. Recommendations made to help sell a product.
9. Recommendations based on studies published without peer review.
10. Recommendations from studies that ignore differences among individuals or groups.

People are getting more and more confused by the scary headlines and discouraged from taking proven, positive steps toward better health, according to Ronni Chernoff, Ph.D., R.D., president-elect of the 67,400-member ADA.

"There's a lot of messy science out there that does nothing more than grab a few headlines, scare people, and stir up emotions. In the long run, these so-called studies do nothing more than leave flotsam and jetsam on the shores of science," said Chernoff.

Mountains of scientific research exist to back the tried-and-true golden rules of nutrition. The Dietary Guidelines for Americans, as well as tools such as the Food Guide Pyramid and Nutrition Facts food label, play a vital role in helping the public apply nutrition science to everyday food practice.

The bottom line—a single food or meal doesn't make or break a healthful diet. What a person eats over time, and how much is eaten, are what's important, along with regular physical activity.

If people have questions about food and nutrition issues, they can call the Consumer Nutrition Hot Line of ADA's National Center for Nutrition and Dietetics at (800) 366-1655 and speak with a registered dietitian (R.D.) or locate one in their area for nutrition counseling.

R.D.'s answer questions weekdays from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Eastern). Recorded messages on a variety of topics are available weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**Nancy Dell, MS, is the Media Representative for the Western Mass. Dietetic Association and a Registered Dietitian with a private practice in Feeding Hills. She can be reached at (413) 786-2957.**

**Please remember  
that our deadline is  
every Tuesday at  
noon. Thanks.**

**Agawam 6th Graders  
To Be Offered  
Hepatitis B Shots**

The Agawam Health Department will offer hepatitis B immunizations to Agawam Middle School sixth graders.

The immunizations consist of a series of three shots administered by Health Department personnel during school hours over a period of six months. With parental consent, students will receive the first dose on April 25th, the second on May 23rd, and the final dose in September at the Junior High School.

The vaccine, derived from brewer's yeast, has few side effects and is over 95 percent effective after three doses. The vaccine is being provided free-of-charge through the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's Immunization Program.

In the U.S., adolescents and young adults are at highest risk for hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection. Symptoms of acute hepatitis include jaundice (yellow color of the skin and eyes), dark colored urine, fever, fatigue, loss of appetite, and nausea.

About five percent of the individuals who are infected with HBV become "chronic carriers" and can spread the infection to others throughout their lifetime. Individuals that are chronic carriers are at a markedly elevated risk of developing cirrhosis, or liver cancer.

Effective in 1996, state law will require hepatitis immunizations for entry into kindergarten for all children born on or after January 1, 1992; however, most other schoolchildren may not yet be immunized.

Although immunization is not required at this time for entry into the seventh grade, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American School Health Association all recommend immunizing 11 and 12 year-olds to protect them from potential exposure to the virus during adolescence. Sixth graders who do not receive the vaccine in school are advised to obtain it at their doctor's office.

Information packets containing hepatitis B fact sheets, pamphlets, along with a parental consent form, will be sent home with all sixth graders. Parental consent forms must be returned in order for the child to be immunized.

Anyone wishing further information may contact the Agawam Health Department at 786-0400, ext. 208.

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notice to cover your  
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## For Your Health - continued...

## Managing YOUR STRESS

by Dr. Stephen Sobel  
M.S., S.M.C.



The Agawam Advertiser News, in conjunction with Dr. Steve Sobel, is pleased to announce that Dr. Sobel will be conducting the seminar, "Creating High Self-Esteem and Empowerment" for children ages nine to 14.

The seminar will be held on Saturday, June 15, 1996 from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. at The Captain Charles Leonard House, Main Street, Agawam.

This is a seminar that will enhance the ability of your child to deal effectively with the daily challenges that they all face.

Dr. Sobel is a former teacher, school principal, special education director and now devotes the majority of his time speaking at major conferences on issues regarding self-esteem, attitude, and selected motivation issues for children as well as adults.

This is a special day just for your child. As Dr. Sobel says, "Children may be a small percentage of the population, but they are 100 percent of our future."

**WHAT IS COVERED IN THE SEMINAR:** Dr. Sobel will discuss, in a very upbeat and supportive manner, the following strands of information.

- How to handle rejection
- How to make sound choices and judgments in social and school settings
- How to feel more self-assured and confident
- The importance of communicating effectively with peers and parents
- How to feel "good enough"
- How to get along better with others in difficult situations
- The importance of setting goals.
- The vital role of intuition

Please send the registration fee of \$10 per child, or \$15 for non-Agawam residents, to The New England Institute For Stress Management, 425 Union Street, West Springfield, MA 01089, as soon as possible as space is limited. Checks are payable to The Agawam Advertiser News. If you have any questions, call Dr. Sobel at 413-785-1259, or Ric Sardella at 786-7747.

Please include the name of child(ren) attending, ages, address, city, state, zip, daytime phone for parent, as well as signature giving permission for your child to attend this seminar on Saturday, June 15, 1996.

If you would like to order Dr. Sobel's two-cassette audio tape album so you can reinforce some of the ideas presented, please indicate and include \$15, plus five percent tax and \$2.50 shipping/handling.

## Happy 16th Birthday, Honey



We Love You,  
Dad, Mom, Kim, Alicia,  
Jacko & Jacob

## Living Well... Swing Into Spring - Enhance Your Golf Game With Physical & Mental Exercises (Part I)

by Barb Vinciguerra, MS  
Assistant General Manager, Fitness First

By the time you read this, another two to six inches of snow might have fallen in this area (so the weather reporter said). "When am I ever going to get out to play?" you might ask yourself. Well, I've been fortunate this past month, as I have managed to get out on the golf course a few times.

Though not enough to satisfy me, it was enough to help ease my passion for the game that I have not been able to play for the past four to five months. Even though I haven't physically been able to get out on the course as much as I would like, I have been able to improve my game by at least two to three strokes—guaranteed!

How you might ask? Simply by taking care of myself in the off-season by working on my physical and mental preparation as it relates to my golf game.

A properly designed exercise program will undoubtedly improve your golf game. If you don't believe me, then just take a look at the LPGA, PGA, or Senior Tour and witness the professionals who are now actively involved in an exercise regimen. They know they couldn't do what they do day in and day out and perform at optimal levels, if they weren't physically fit.

Dave Stockton recently stated that the best thing he did for himself in the off-season was to get physically and mentally fit. So what type of exercise program should you be doing to improve your golf game? Research has shown that a properly designed exercise program for golf is one that includes both strength and flexibility training.

\*\*\*  
**Best local news...  
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\*\*\*

Do you ever wonder why you seem to lose distance as you get older? It's probably from a combination of several things, two of which are loss of muscle tissue and a decrease in joint flexibility...and both of which are a natural part of the aging process that will impede your golf game and your overall health, if you let them.

A recent study was conducted with golfers involved in an eight-week conditioning program. Three times a week, they participated in a 30-minute strength training program and also completed 10 minutes of six stretching exercises.

When the study was completed, the golfers had increased their club head speed by five miles per hour; they enhanced their shoulder and hip flexibility by 24 percent; and better yet, they gained muscle and reduced their blood pressure ... all within the eight weeks!

This is clear evidence that a properly designed exercise program can work for you.

Next week, I will discuss how you can get your mind in shape to play better golf. Learn more about improving your golf game by attending Golf '96 at Fitness First Health and Fitness Center on Tuesday, April 23rd. Call 786-1460 for more information.

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## Arts

### "Meet Me In St. Lou" To Be Staged April 19 By St. Martha's Players

The St. Martha Players Cabaret Theatre proudly announces that their spring production will be the well-loved musical comedy, "Meet Me In St. Louis." A musical play in two acts, "Meet Me In St. Louis" was written by Hugh Wheeler with music by Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane.

The original Broadway production of "Meet Me In St. Louis" was first performed at the Gershwin Theatre on November 2, 1989. The production is based on the MGM motion picture, "Meet Me In St. Louis" starring Judy Garland.

"Meet Me In St. Louis" is set around the opening of the St. Louis World Fair in 1903. The story revolves around the Smith family, young love, and a possible uprooting of the family when Mr. Smith is asked to accept a new position in New York City.

The show is filled with well-loved songs like "Meet Me In St. Louis," "The Trolley Song," "The Boy Next Door," "Skip To My Lou," and "Have Yourself A Merry Christmas."

Lauren Gruet of Longmeadow plays the lead role of Esther Smith (the Judy Garland role). David Labigalini of Windsor, Trish Neild of Enfield, and Roger Gove, Jr. of East Longmeadow play the roles of John Truitt, Rose Smith and Lon Smith.

Also cast are Robert Harrison of East Longmeadow as Mr. Smith and Gail Dumoulin of Enfield as Mrs. Smith. The production is under the direction of veteran director Anna Giza of Somers, CT with musical direction by Steven D. Cirillo of Agawam, and choreography by Coleen Bartlett-Taylor of Springfield.

Performance dates are April 19th, 20th, 26th, 27th, and May 3rd, 5th, 10th, and 11th. All Friday and Saturday performances are at 8:00 p.m. The Sunday, May 5th performance is at 2:00 p.m.

All performances are held at the St. Martha School, 214 Brainard Road, Enfield, CT. For ticket information, contact SMP Service at (860) 745-6368.

### Tickets Still Available For Cultural Council's Trip To New York City

The Agawam Cultural Council still has tickets available for their New York City bus trip on Saturday, May 18th.

Anyone interested may send \$18 per person (which is non-refundable) and a self-addressed stamped envelope to council member Geraldine Ann Schilling-Nordal, 760 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA 01001. Checks should be made payable to the Agawam Cultural Council.

Departure time will be at 6:25 a.m. from the Agawam High School parking lot. There will be no stops on the trip down or back.

The bus will stop at the Metropolitan Museum of Fine Arts, Rockefeller Center, Times Square (theater ticket booth), 34th Street Macy's, and the 14th Street South Seaport. Arrival home at Agawam High School will be approximately 9:45 p.m.

If there are any questions, please call Linda Lazarus at 786-2335.



IN REHEARSAL FOR THE St. Martha Cabaret Theatre production of "Meet Me In St. Louis" (from left to right): Jason Michaud, Trish Neild, Laura Normand, Lauren Gruet, Cassie Kubinski, Betsy Ingraham, and Roger Gove, Jr.

### Hilltop Players Of Feeding Hills To Stage "Once Upon A Mattress" In May

Margie Secora, director of the Hilltop Players Family Theatre, has announced the cast for the upcoming Players' musical "Once Upon A Mattress" by Mary Rodgers and Marshall Barer.

Playing the role of Princess Winnifred (which marked the Broadway debut of Carol Burnett) is Mary Broderick of Longmeadow, who is well-known to local community theatregoers.

Prince Dauntless, who is anxious to wed a princess (any princess!), will be played by Steve Sands, Jr. of Agawam, whose strong voice has been heard in several Red Door stage productions.

Making her debut with the Hilltop Players is Debbie Macey-Taylor as Queen Aggravain. Debbie's comic talent and distinctive voice are a big part of the success of The Friends of Harmony Riverside Chorus.

Other newcomers include Dave Dello Russo as the Minstrel; Gary Winn as the Wizard; Chris Stanley as Sir Henry; and Amy Millette as Lady Larkin. Amy is also currently playing the title role in Westfield's "Cinderella."

Richard Authier of Springfield, whose colorful antics as the leprechaun Og were displayed in Hilltop's "Finian's Rainbow," again brings his dancing and singing talents to the role of the Jester.

Rounding out the courtly cast are Ladies-In-Waiting Mariah Stratner, Marcy Secora, Deb Bramucci, Debra Lawrence, Elisa Martin, Alissa Pereira, Lindsay Nickerson, Alex Kane, Jean Latif, Becky Carey, and Katie Tingley.

Knights and pages include Jesse Randzio, Jeff Tingley, Tony Andre, Brian Wood, and Lyle Pearsons as King Sextimus.

"Once Upon A Mattress" is a musical comedy loosely based on the story of "The Princess and The Pea." It will be presented at The Red Door Theatre, 152 S. Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA on May 10th, 11th, 17th, and 18th at 7:30 p.m.; there will also be a special Mother's Day 2:00 p.m. matinee on Sunday, May 12th.

Tickets are only \$5 and may be reserved by calling The Red Door Ticket Answering Service at (413) 789-2026.

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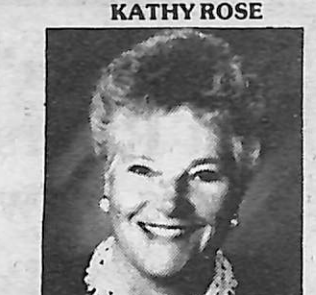
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STORYTELLER JOHN PORCINO will be at the Agawam Public Library on April 17th.

## Agawam Library Set For Storyteller During "Nat'l Library Week"

Join us on Wednesday, April 17th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library as we top off our "National Library Week" celebration with the warmth and wit of John Porcino, storyteller/singer/musician.

Agawam and Feeding Hills families are invited to an hour of fun with this popular entertainer. His celebration will come to life with warmth, humor, a playful touch of audience participation, instruments from around the world, and a message of caring for our planet and each other.

This program is designed for those aged three and up. Call 789-1550 or stop by at 750 Cooper Street to register.

## Children's Chorus At Riverside Park Seeks New Members

Hey, kids! Would you like to give your Dad a great and unique Father's Day present this June? Join the Riverside Park Children's Community Chorus, who will perform for Dad on stage at Riverside Park on Sunday, June 16th—Fathers' Day!

There are no auditions, and everyone is welcome from the ages of five to 12. Rehearsals will be on Monday nights from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., starting May 6th and ending June 10th (six Monday nights) at Riverside Park.

Please call and sign up at 1-800-370-7488, and ask for Patti Carroll (ext. 3400) or Judy Lemay (ext. 3014).

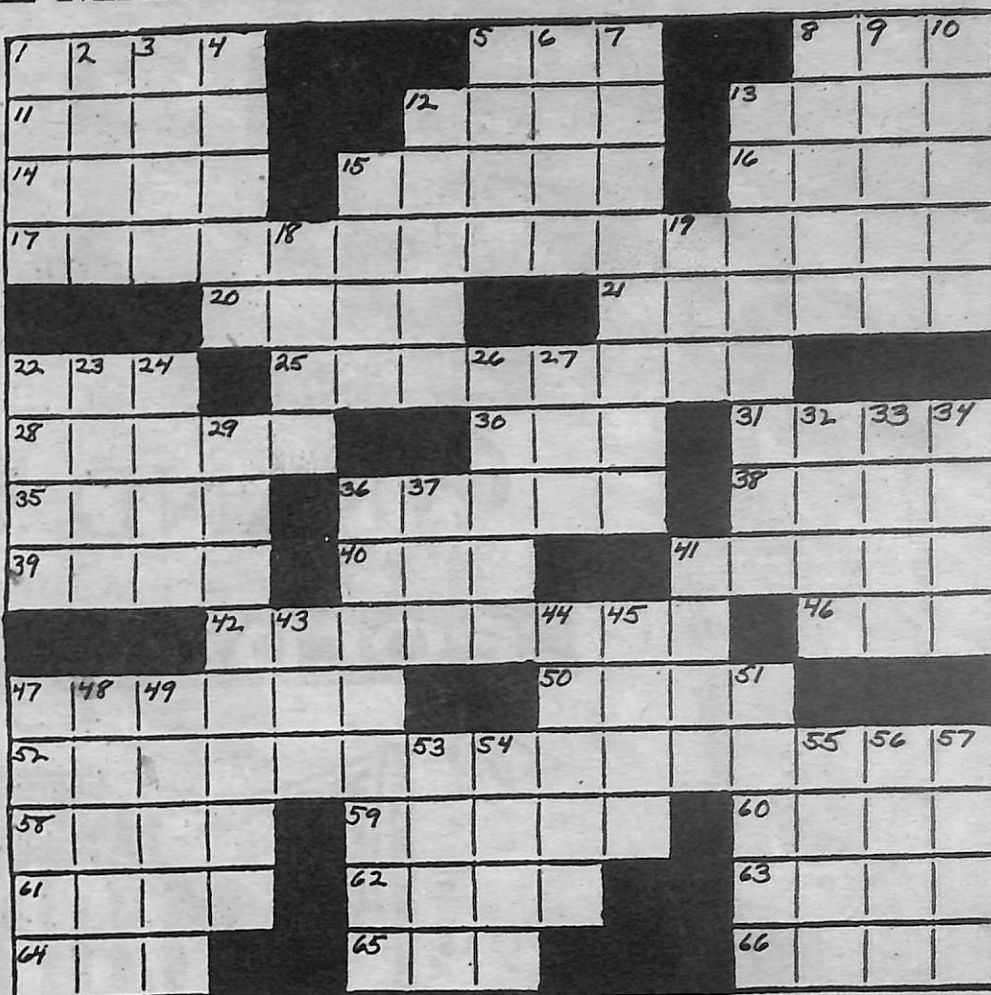
## MEET THE MASTER - by Dick Mastroianni

### ACROSS

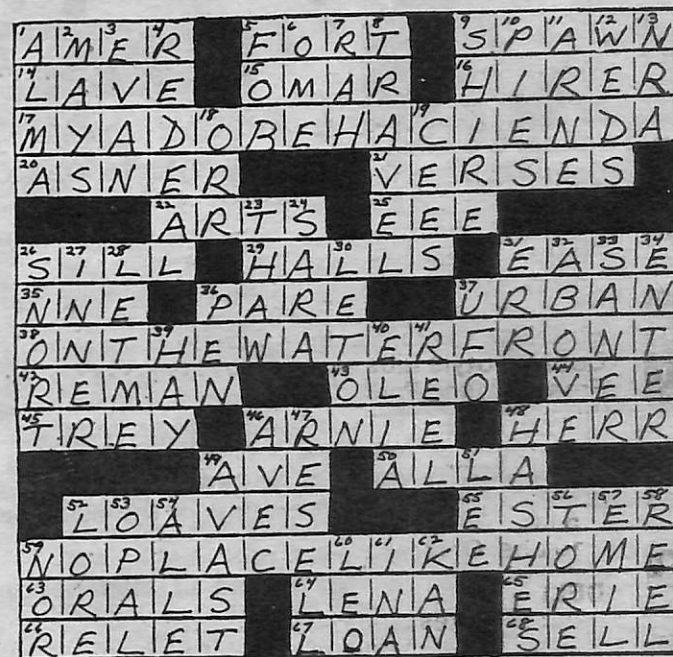
- 1 Bear another way
- 5 "From — to shining sea"
- 8 Amper (abbr.)
- 11 Spoken
- 12 Tell all (slang)
- 13 Sheltered side
- 14 Mercantile site
- 15 "Gay —"
- 16 Native knowledge
- 17 Tough guy actor turns to Perry Mason
- 20 Irate
- 21 Stops
- 22 M.I.T. workshop
- 25 Scrape
- 28 Oscar for one
- 30 Forest female
- 31 Jot
- 35 Show concern
- 36 Twists
- 38 "— For All Seasons"
- 39 Ogled
- 40 "We — not amused"
- 41 "— in the grass"
- 42 Sudden spurt of action
- 46 Unused
- 47 Stir up
- 50 Bring along
- 52 Insp. Dreyfus portrayer turns to coaching
- 58 And others
- 59 What trees provide
- 60 Actress Russel
- 61 Cleo's waterway
- 62 Salad fish
- 63 Sea raptor
- 64 Observe
- 65 Small bit of verse
- 66 Actress Donna

### DOWN

- 1 Italia's capital
- 2 Pertaining to time
- 3 Poet
- 4 Choir members
- 5 Where Anna taught
- 6 Within (prefix)
- 7 Administrative divisions
- 8 Baseball family name
- 9 Merry (var.)
- 10 Equals
- 12 More like a fox
- 13 Tiranian man
- 15 Hook part
- 18 Iter
- 19 Deodorant (abbr.)
- 22 "Queen Anne's —"
- 23 Not in
- 24 Naked
- 26 Ta-ta in Lyons
- 27 The sun
- 29 Bridge ploy
- 32 Muscat's country
- 33 "Why not — all of me?"
- 34 "Take — approach"
- 36 Spoils
- 37 Globe
- 41 Ticket remainder
- 43 "— no hooks"
- 44 M.T. Moore's girlfriend
- 45 Like a pea in a pod
- 47 "Rare as — teeth"
- 48 Lace over
- 49 Papal cape
- 51 Heavy bodied brew
- 53 Kin of plop
- 54 Rural way
- 55 Cooking order
- 56 "Wine and —"
- 57 "— three lives"



### Last Week's Solution...



## Kent Memorial Library Has Exhibition Of Works By Two Suffield Artists

Suffield: The Suffield Council for the Arts has announced the opening of the "Kindred Suffield Spirits" exhibition of the works of Suffield residents Gloria N. Roy and Michele L. McGurk. This combined show is on display until April 25th at the Kent Memorial Library in Suffield.

The media will include acrylics, oils, pastels, print (etchings), and charcoals. Both of these ar-

tists have exhibited in Connecticut and Massachusetts and are members of the Springfield Art League. Mrs. Roy has continued studies in art at Central Connecticut University.

The opening reception is Saturday, April 6th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. The exhibit is free and open to the public at the library on Mountain Rd. in Suffield.

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## Education

### Alaskan Dogsledding Captures Imaginations Of 3rd & 6th Graders

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

We've had one of the snowiest winters on record, but the spring melt came just days too soon for Nancy Swikalus' third graders at Clark School and Margaret Gaylor's Middle School sixth graders.

As the culmination of their three weeks' study of the Iditarod dogsled race, the children were looking forward to a demonstration by Ludlow musher Mike Santos, but the snow outside Clark School had pretty much disappeared by the time the last finishers in the Alaskan race were crossing the finish line on Front Street in Nome, Alaska.

The students didn't get to see Santos' team in action, but the children didn't seem to mind. They were just as excited to see the dogs and learn more about the equipment used by the Alaskan mushers as they race down the Bering Sea coast toward Nome, following the route taken in the original run from Anchorage that brought diphtheria serum to the people of Nome.

Mrs. Swikalus said each of her students followed the progress of three Iditarod racers through faxes put out by the race organizers each day. Especially enjoyable were the reports written by Zuma, the computer room operator's dog.

Mrs. Gaylor touched off her class's study of the race with a written report on Alaska and used the race as the basis for spelling, math, and social studies lessons.

"I think they really enjoyed this because we started with something they didn't know anything about and learned a lot," Mrs. Gaylor said.

#### Emphasis Placed On Finishing The Race...

Both teachers agreed their students benefited from the emphasis placed on the importance of finishing the race rather than winning. Each musher crossing the finish line gets a hero's welcome as the fans pour out of their homes at any hour of the day or night to answer the fire department's siren that signals a dog team is on the way in. There's even a special prize, the Red Lantern Award, given to the last musher to cross the finish line.

"The kids learn that to compete you're not always expecting to be first. It's more important to work hard and finish the race," Mrs. Gaylor said.



**DOGSLED MUSER Mike Santos** from Ludlow with one of his Siberian huskies at Clark School. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

With the help of Brimfield musher Laurie Merritt, Santos introduced two of his Siberian huskies to the children and explained how the specialized equipment is used to protect both the dogs and the mushers during a sled race.

A musher for the last six years, Santos said breeding and training the dogs has become more of a way of life than a hobby for himself and his wife. It started with trading in his red sports car for a pickup truck to transport the dogs. "It consumes your life," Santos said. "I've given up just about everything to afford the tons of dog food and the special gear."

But he's not complaining. Santos grins as he explains that his "day" job as a hair stylist is "something I do so I can afford all of this with the dogs."

### Late Winter Olympics At Agawam High



**AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL** students celebrated what they hoped was the end of winter on March 15th with the Annual Winter Olympics. **IN TOP PHOTO**, Melissa Fleming receives a pie in the face from Andrew Ingham; **IN PHOTO BELOW**, Stephanie Fleming and Gina Markowski get ready for another event. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



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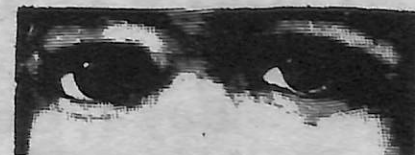
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# “Match Wits” Team At Agawam High Enjoys Good Year

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

Three years ago, they made it to the championship round. This year, the Agawam High School quiz kids called it a draw with one win and one loss in TV-22's “As Schools Match Wits” competition.

The season was short but sweet for the four senior girls and their advisor, Lawrence O'Brien. In their first appearance, AHS knocked off the team that had beaten them in the championships three years ago, but the girls were edged out by the stiff competition of Loomis Chaffee High School on their second go-around.

“I'm proud of the team,” O'Brien said. “Any team that wins even once is a success.”

With only one team member, **Cathy Willis**, having experience on last year's TV team, the team might chalk up their loss to a case of stage fright. But, it could have been the result of a haircut and a mangled mascot.

According to team members **Christy Dubay**, **Kelly Carmody**, and **Kelly Shaw**, everything is supposed to be done the same way on each successive appearance. The superstition led one of the team's biggest fans, **Sandy Dubay**, to cancel a haircut, but Cathy wasn't buying it and went ahead with a trim. Now she's on the receiving end of some good-natured teasing from her teammates.

Still, Cathy maintains it was a headless pig that led to their downfall. Seems that the team's good luck charm, a plastic pig, lost its head, and the replacement drawn and attached by team alternates **Mike Freeman** and **Paul Lalli** wasn't quite powerful enough to bring home the bacon.

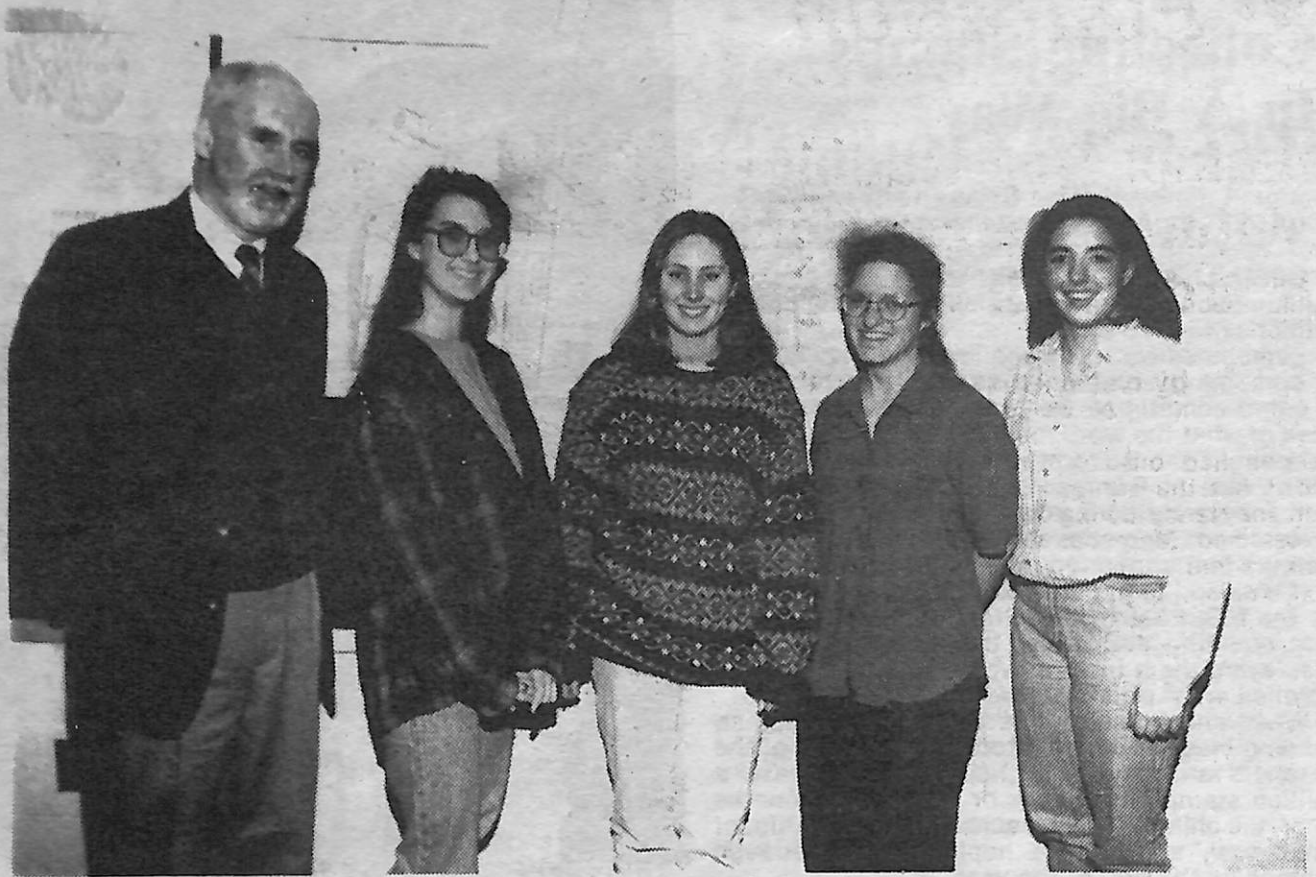
The girls finally admitted there were no psychic forces at work. “We just didn't get any questions we knew!”

Kelly Carmody added, “The other team had a lot of chances to capitalize (take over Agawam's turn) because our qualifying questions were difficult.”

As the team's captain, Cathy Willis offered this advice for next year's rookie team: “If you know the answer, don't be afraid to say it and don't wear jeans.”

The entire “As Schools Match Wits” club meets weekly with O'Brien (after school) to prepare for the television show. This year, the club had about a dozen members representing all four classes.

Typically, the club uses any and all trivia sources they can find to get themselves ready. Questions from past shows, especially any that the team had gotten wrong, are an important part of their practice sessions.



MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL “As Schools Match Wits” team. From left - faculty member Larry O'Brien, advisor; team members Kelly Shaw, Kelly Carmody, Cathy Willis, and Christy Dubay. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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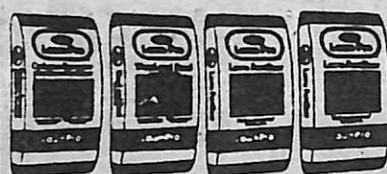
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## Granger Students Collecting Stamps In A Big Way

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

One in a million. You look like a million bucks. A million-to-one shot. MassMillions. Millionaire. Millions of miles away.

Sometimes we say it when we mean a whole lot of something; sometimes we use it to exaggerate a point; sometimes we even have a pretty good idea of what the word means, as in an \$18 million school budget. But just what is a million?

The kids at Granger School are trying to find out. They're collecting cancelled postage stamps, metered postage stickers, and even the bulk mail permits that appear on catalogues and junk mail.

If it's used to get a package or a letter delivered by the U.S. Post Office, Granger kids are collecting, counting, and storing them in aquariums and displaying them in a showcase outside Principal Phyllis Lewis' office.

When she launched the project in November, reading teacher Bonnie Moccio said some of the teachers and students thought they'd have a million stamps in a week or so. But six months later, the children have reached about one-third of their goal, and they're hoping to get enough stamps by the end of the year.

Mrs. Moccio said the idea behind the project is to show the children what a million looks like. "A million is an overwhelming concept and we use the term loosely every day.

"We decided to collect stamps because everybody has them. Everybody has mail coming into the house, so this won't cost anything," Mrs. Moccio said.

Every Friday afternoon, the excitement builds as the children look forward to the announcement of the total for the week. Sometimes, individual classrooms and students are singled out for recognition of the number they have brought in.

Mrs. Moccio said parents, grandparents, and neighbors can help in the collection, but the stamps should be trimmed, counted, and sent to school in an envelope only on Fridays.

Mrs. Moccio said the teachers are using the stamp collection as part of their lessons in math, social studies, and as a writing opportunity in their literature-based reading program.



GRANGER SCHOOL STUDENTS pictured collecting stamps, from left - Annemarie Zaffetti, Chelsea Goodhue, Kelly Williamson, Kristen Kulaga, and Sara Cote. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## Agawam High Band Parents Plan Benefit Auction For April 26th

Rose Rossi plans to do her annual fundraiser for the Agawam Band. This year's auction is scheduled for Friday, April 26th, and will be held in the Agawam High School Cafeteria. The preview will be at 5:00 p.m., followed by a 6:00 p.m. auction.

Many items have been donated for this event. Some of the highlights include: a membership to the AAA, games from Milton Bradley, tickets to the Pittsfield Mets, autographed Celtics poster,

bus tickets to New York City, StageWest tickets, a brand new gas grill from Baystate Gas, brunch for two at the Sheraton, a signed Bruins puck, and gift certificates from several local businesses.

Refreshments will be available and there will be no buyer's premium. Anyone with questions or donations may contact Tammy Watson at Agawam High School, 789-1400, ext. 410.

Donated items will be accepted at the door, and are tax-deductible.

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## AHS Guidance...

by Judith Cohen  
Acting Director  
AHS Guidance Dept.

### Important Dates

All parents of Juniors should circle their calendars on April 25th and plan to come to the High School cafeteria at 7:00 p.m. to learn about the important Senior year, what they can do to help their children, and the deadlines that must be met in order to make the Senior year a smooth one. Each counselor will be present to help disseminate the information. Parents will be placed in small groups to facilitate discussion.

A Junior Parents Booklet with very important information will be distributed and explained. Counselors will shed light on the process required for the college bound and the non-college bound student.

We look forward to working with you. Please jot down any questions you might have and we will try to answer them that evening.

All college bound Juniors should have registered to take the SAT I which will be administered on Saturday, May 4th, at the High School. If a Junior forgot to register, he/she may register for the test that will take place on June 1st.

The registration, which may be obtained in the Guidance Office, must be postmarked no later than April 26th. That test will NOT be given at the High School, but will be given at Longmeadow High School, so the test center code will have to reflect that on the registration form.

If a Junior is planning to attend a very competitive college, he/she should take the SAT II. That will be given on June 1st. Only the SAT I or the SAT II may be taken that day; both cannot be taken on the same day. If a youngster is unsure whether to take the SAT II, he/she should see a guidance counselor for assistance.

Scheduling is about to begin at the Middle, Junior High, and High Schools. Please be on the

## School Committee Plans Workshop On Professional Develop.

The Agawam School Committee will hold a special workshop meeting on professional development on Saturday, April 27th at the Agawam Junior High School cafeteria, 1305 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

lookout for scheduling sheets and the Program of Studies Book that will help you decide what are the appropriate courses.

Guidance Counselors will be meeting with each student to go over his/her program for next year. Each Counselor wishes to place each youngster in a course where he/she will be challenged, but successful.

We will be checking with current subject teachers for help, and we welcome parents' comments, too.

### GUIDANCE BULLETIN

#### COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES - CONGRATULATIONS!

Jason DeGray, Union, Worcester Polytech; Nelson Abdala, UMASS/Dartmouth; Rosemarie Oppedisano, New York University; Gina Cincotta, Boston University; Andrew Markowski, Union; Adrienne O'Quinn, Clark, Boston Univ.; Karla Zambelli, Boston University; Betsy Gervais, Clark; Kelly Carmody, Bucknell, Tufts, Trinity, Union; Selena Machia, New York University; Jeff Alberti, Johnson & Wales; Alfred Albano, Hamilton; Steve DeJoinville, STCC.

**SCHOLARSHIPS** - See your counselor for more information.

**Mark A. Curto Memorial Scholarship** - Open to high school seniors who plan to pursue higher education on a full-time basis. This award strives to recognize fellowship and effort more than a high level of academic achievement. Deadline: May 25, 1996.

**Horace Smith Fund** - This loan fund is available to students after the student has received his/her financial aid package from a college. Loans are made for full-time college attendance only, and are given with an interest rate of eight percent. The loan will become due and interest will accrue one year after graduation from college. Deadline: July 1, 1996.

**OPEN HOUSES** - See your counselor for more information.

**Bryant College** - April 19th.

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## Teen Saturday Nights For AHS Students Again At Fitness First

The Agawam High School Teen Night Program will continue this Saturday night, April 13th, from 7:30 to 11:00 p.m. as planned. Students are welcome to use the facilities at Fitness First for a \$3 fee per student.

The program entitles students to use of the swimming pool and spa, racquetball courts, volleyball, basketball, weight training, and cardio equipment, or to just meet and socialize with friends.

The program has been very successful, with 40 to 60 students each Saturday night since October. Joann McGeoghan has been the head chaperone and has offered her time nearly every weekend.

There are several other chaperones each week, in addition to the Fitness First staff, that oversee these fun evenings. It's given the students a fun, safe alternate place to go throughout these long winter months.

The program will continue into spring, as long as the students continue to take advantage of it. All Agawam teens are welcome to get involved and bring their workout clothes, a lock, a towel, and a bathing suit.

For more information, call Fitness First at 786-1460.

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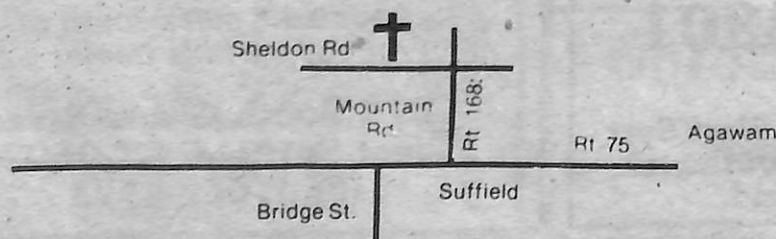
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## TV-22 Sportscaster Speaks At AHS

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

Being a television sportscaster is more of a lifestyle than a career. Officially, the hours usually run from mid-afternoon until late in the evening, but it's really a 24-hour a day job—watching as many games as possible on ESPN and catching up on reading newspaper and magazine articles.

TV-22's Steve Roulier recently gave Agawam High School students an insider's view of what it takes to get and hold onto a job in an industry that's so competitive it's not unusual for 400 people to apply for one low paying position at a small television station.

In 10 years, Roulier has worked his way up from doing the ski report in Killington, to a spot on the three-man team reporting the sports at a station serving a market area ranked 98th out of 300 markets nationwide.

A graduate of a small college not known for its mass communications program, Roulier said students may actually be better off avoiding the major universities.

"You don't necessarily have to go to a big name school," Roulier said. "At a small school, you will get more hands-on experience. At a school like Syracuse, you probably won't get your hands on a camera until your senior year."

### College Degree Priceless

Roulier said a college degree was priceless and students hoping for a career in broadcasting should take a wide variety of technical and journalism courses.

"Don't limit yourself. You need to know as many positions as you can," Roulier said.

Expecting to work behind the scenes after college, Roulier said he had taken mainly technical courses, but more journalism courses may have helped him land a better job earlier in his career.

Also, working at the college radio station gave him experience in the broadcast world and in dealing with people and record companies.

"Check into your college radio stations and be active. Do as many things as you can," Roulier said. "You never know how it will help you down the line."



SPORTSCASTER STEVE ROULIER

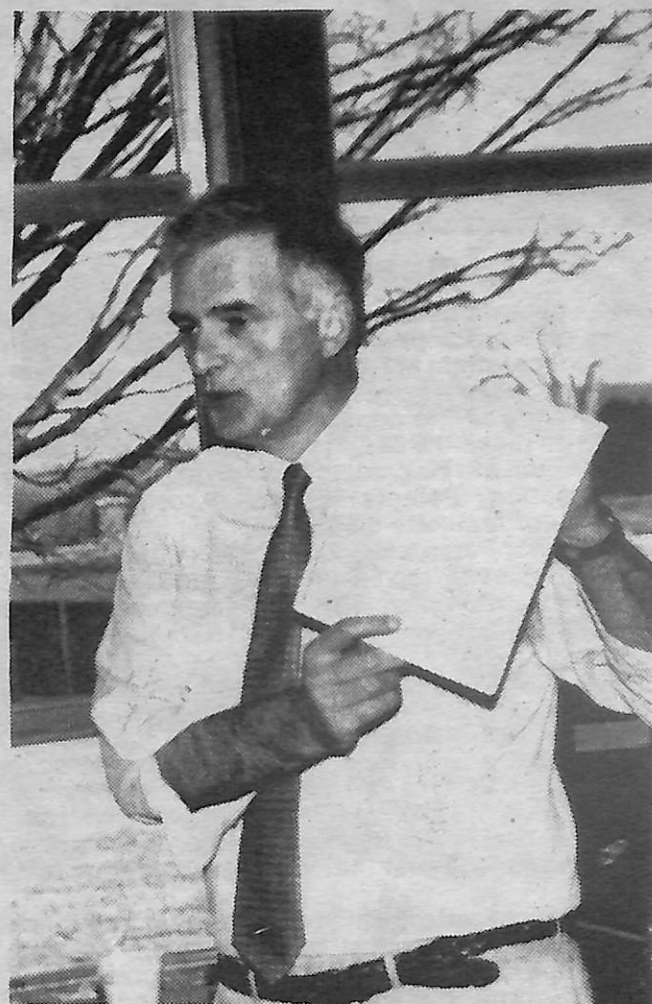
Roulier told students there's a lot more to broadcasting the sports than plunking down in front of a camera and saying, "In the world of sports today..."

"There's so much to learn and you should start now to learn as much as you can," Roulier advised.

AHS Guidance Counselor Alan Cohen said the Guidance Department tries to present as many guest speakers as possible from a wide range of professions in small settings open to students at all grade levels.

"We're bringing in career speakers so that the kids can see a connection between school and work," Cohen said. "We want the kids to understand they have a reason to be here."

## AHS Hears Speaker



RETIRED SPRINGFIELD POLICE CHIEF Thomas Fitzgerald, a current professor at American International College, talks about the criminal justice system during a visit to Agawam High School on March 27th. Advertiser

News photo by Jack Devine.

Check our classified pages every week



STEVE HEARN

## Steve Hearn Named "Student Of The Year" At Kung Fu Academy

On Saturday, March 30, 1996, the Kung Fu Academy of Chicopee and Agawam held their annual awards banquet at St. Anne's Country Club in Agawam. Steve Hearn of Feeding Hills was honored by being voted "Student of the Year" by his instructors.

The Kung Fu Academy has approximately 270 students, so being chosen "Student of the Year" is a very dubious award and all the students work hard during the year in hopes of receiving this award.

During the awards ceremony, Steve was presented with the Shaolin Straight Sword by his instructor, Ken Grimshaw.

Steve has been a student at the Kung Fu Academy in Chicopee for eight years. He competes in tournaments throughout New England, holds the rank of First Degree Black Belt, and will be testing soon for his Second Degree.

An eighth grade student at Agawam Junior High School, Steve is the son of Sue and Wayne Hearn.

Congratulations, Steve!

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# Carnival For Robinson Park School



ROBINSON PARK SCHOOL held a Carnival on Saturday, March 23rd at the Polish American Club. IN PHOTOS ABOVE, from left - DARE Officer Donald Gallerani brought anti-drug info to the Carnival and is pictured with students Michael Ferrigno and Caitlin Sullivan; Next, Kristen Moriarty is dressed as a clown and is pictured with Sean Moriarty; and at right, Patti Dionne paints the face of Casey Roncalli. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

## Budding Scientists...



OVER AT PHELPS SCHOOL on April 1st, student Katie Ratkiewicz and "Mr. Wizard's Assistant" (a.k.a. Andy Yuracek of Columbus, Ohio) try a science experiment. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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## Sports



KENT SERVIS will be the new outdoors writer for *The Advertiser News*.

### 'Outdoors - New Eng.' Will Be New Feature

With the passing of beloved outdoor writer Bill Chiba, *The Sportsman's Corner* will be retired to a position of honor and respect for the man who served the sportsman's interest for decades.

A fellow outdoor writer and member of the New England Outdoor Writers Association, Kent Servis of Feeding Hills, will be writing the outdoors column each week.

Servis said, "I am not a replacement for Bill. No one can replace this man, his column, his style, or his dedication to sportsmen. I can only try to carry on the job of keeping the sportsmen informed of what is taking place that affects our love of hunting, fishing, and our environment."

Servis is a former science teacher and sales consultant. He is a freelance writer and produces industrial video scripts and writes technical manuals. In addition to his other interests, Servis is a certified diver and former N.A.U.I. underwater instructor.

Servis is also known for his work as a responsible common sense environmentalist. He was honored last year by the North American Bass Anglers organization.

He was presented with the "Conservationist Of The Year Award" in recognition of the outstanding work he has performed to protect America's water resources from environmental damage, and his ongoing efforts to preserve our fisheries for future generations.

He also represents the citizens of Agawam as a member of the Agawam Town Council.

As a sportsman, Servis is a self-described "fishing fanatic" and is an ardent bass fisherman, as well as a die-hard surfcaster. He is equally at home working behind a good bird dog or chasing a pack of coon hounds through the swamps and over the hills "just for the fun of it."

Servis is encouraging sportsman's clubs and organizations in the area to forward announcements of upcoming events to *The AAN* for publication.

The new "Outdoors - New England" column will debut just in time for the unofficial beginning of the fresh water fishing bonanza.

## Brownie Baseball Splits As 1996 Season Opens

### West Side Erupts For 8-3 Victory

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

Sometimes, what is here today is gone tomorrow. Case in point—what the Agawam High School boys' baseball team had last Thursday in its 4-3 opening win over Longmeadow was nowhere to be found the next day (Friday) against West Springfield. The arch-rival Terriers beat them handily, 8-3.

West Side got on the board in its half of the first inning. They were facing one of the heroes of Thursday's game, righthander Jamie Scherban. Centerfielder Shawn Lyman slapped a two-out double to left. He was driven home compliments of a single by first baseman Nick Siciliano. Agawam went down in order.

West Side didn't score in the second. But Scherban, behind a serious fastball, dusted two Terriers, which brought his two-inning strikeout total to three. The Brownies got a run when Jon Jacobsen (1-2, a double, 1 RBI, 1 run scored) drew a walk and moved to second on a Dom Pisano (1-3, 1 RBI) ground-out. Jay Malone (2-2) walked. Chris Chechile (0-3) popped to first. Scherban (1-1, 1 RBI) came up and belted a line shot up the middle. It was good enough to score Jacobsen from second.

Todd Jorgensen (0-2) was next. He got good metal on the ball, sending a screaming, sinking liner towards the right side of the second base bag. It was snagged on a parallel drive by Terrier second sacker Tim Provost. That play would be one of several defensive gems offered up by West Side.

Scherban seemed to be on his way to another stellar performance on the mound to go along with his performance of the previous day. He struck out the side in the third for his fourth, fifth, and sixth of the game. The Brownies went down in order as well. After three, it was tied 1-1.

The fourth inning dawned minus Scherban, who was sitting on the bench, an ice pack pressed to his right elbow. High on the hill in his place was 6'5" junior righthander Jay Malone. It seemed Scherban (3 IP, 2 hits, 1 run, 1 ER, 1 walk, 6 K's) had complained of soreness. Malone got out of the inning score free. The Brownies failed to mount any kind of offense when it was their turn, as they went in order.

The fifth saw both of these old foes fail to score. The throng of Brownie faithful on hand were getting a bit edgy. They wanted runs and lots of them against the guys from across the river.

They got those runs in the sixth. Unfortunately, they didn't come from the expected source.

Malone, who'd pitched two scoreless innings, seemed to be on cruise control. He got a quick out. Then Terrier pitcher Steve Blanchette touched him up for a single to left, past the diving Jorgensen. Siciliano hit another single in about the same place. Suddenly, it was one out and two on.

Coach Boo Smith obviously had seen enough. Malone (2 1/3 IP, 3 hits, 2 runs charged to him, 2 ER's, 0 walks, 2 K's) was gone. The big guy trudged back to rightfield, from whence he'd come. Josh Maynard came on to pitch. The junior promptly allowed a single to shortstop Todd Normand, scoring Blanchette.

SEE WEST SIDE LOSS -  
Page 36...

### Menard's 3-Run Blast Stops Longmeadow

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

The 1996 Agawam High School baseball season began officially Thursday, April 4th, at 4:34 in the afternoon, on a day more fit for football than for the national pastime.

The place was Harmon Smith Field. The opponent was Longmeadow. The outcome was a gritty, hardfought 4-3 Brownie victory. Along the way, they showed the frigid faithful in attendance a team different than last year's 9-11 edition. This group has pitching, power at the plate, decent defense, and a coach with a bit of the riverboat gambler in him.

Hill ace Jon Jacobsen got the start and go in to some mild first inning trouble. A walk and a hit batsman left two on with one out. Some nice defense by shortstop Todd Jorgensen - a back-handed stop in the hole and a toss to third baseman Dom Pisano cut down a potential runner at third. Jake then struck out the fifth man in the inning to get himself out of further trouble.

The first offensive outing of the season produced no Agawam runs. But it did show off what hopefully will be a season of Brownie long ball. With two down in the initial inning, designated hitter Brian Menard (2-3, triple and a homerun, 2 RBI's, one run scored) took Lancer pitcher Dave Loonie deep to the opposite field with a rope that went over the rightfielder's head. The big junior ended his race around the bases with a stand-up triple.

Jake, after giving up a leadoff single in the second, set down the side with three straight strikeouts, giving him four through two frames. Agawam got a bagel in the bottom of the inning.

The Lancers struck first in the top of the third. Centerfielder Jay Warwick singled to short. Jorgensen fielded the slow roller, but had no chance for a play, so he held it. Warwick stole second. Jake struck out the next man he faced.

Lancer third baseman Pat Murphy singled sharply to center. Agawam's Jim Baldyga was all over the ball in an instant. Baldyga has a good arm. The Lancers didn't want to challenge it, so they held Warwick at third. The next man up, rightfielder John Betzold, slapped a sharp shot to first. Dan Pellegrino knocked it down, stayed with it, and got the out. Warwick, however, was able to score on the play. A pop-up slammed the door on Longmeadow.

#### Locals Hit Paydirt

Agawam hit paydirt in the bottom of the inning with some impressive hitting and a sound display of fundamentals. Catcher Chris Chechile (1-2, one run scored) pulled a sharp leadoff into the hole between short and third. Second baseman Mike Domainque (0-2) laid down a perfect sacrifice bunt, moving Chechile to second. Then Baldyga punched one down to third that went right through Pat Murphy's wickets and into left. The Brownies now had runners at the corners with one out.

Menard was next. He yanked one down the left-field line that found ground just inside the foul pole. The Lancer outfielder had no choice but to run long and far to chase it down. By the time they

SEE MENARD'S BLAST - Page 36...

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**MENARD'S BLAST - from Page 34...**

got it back to the infield, Menard had a three-run homer on his stat sheet right beside his first-inning triple. "Today, I just went with where the ball was pitched," he would say later. After three, Agawam led, 3-1.

The fourth was quiet. But Jacobsen did pick up his seventh K of the game.

The Lancers chased Jake in the top of the fifth. After ringing up Warwick for his eighth strikeout, he walked second baseman Adam Kramer, then struck out Murphy. There were two outs and it looked as though the Brownies would escape the inning unscathed. But a Betzold Texas-leaguer to center put runners at first and third. (Pitcher) Loonie lofted a short creampuff to left. Jay Malone made the effort but it died a half-foot in front of his glove. Kramer crossed the plate, cutting the Brownie lead to 3-2.

Jamie Scherban came on in relief. Jake (4 2/3 IP, 5 hits, 2 runs, 2 ER, 2 walks, 9 K's) left the hill to applause from his teammates and the faithful. He was now at first base. Scherban, in a two out, two on situation, got shortstop Jack McCarthy on a grounder to Jorgensen, who flipped to Domaingue at second for the final out.

Loonie, who was pitching well himself, set the Brownies down, one, two, three, in the bottom of the fifth.

Scherban, showing a lively fastball and a wicked curve, got the Lancers in order in the top of the sixth.

**A Glimpse Of How Exciting Baseball Can Be**

The bottom of the inning afforded everyone, fans and players alike, a glimpse of how exciting the game of baseball can get. Pisano lofted a long, towering fly ball to deep center. Warwick got under the ball but dropped it. Pisano went to second on the error. A wild pitch sent the senior third baseman to the hot corner. He was 90-feet away from a score.

Malone struck out. And Scherban stepped into the left-handed batter's box. Loonie went into his

windup. Pisano broke for the plate. Scherban squared and sent a textbook bunt down the first base line. Smith had called a suicide squeeze. Pisano scored and Scherban was out on the sacrifice. Both of them executed that play the way it is taught in the textbooks.

"We got the sign and made eye contact," Pisano smiled.

"I wasn't going to hang Dom out to dry," Jamie laughed, referring to the fact that if he'd missed the offering, Pisano would have been a dead duck at the dish.

Smith smiled as well. "I was up most of Wednesday night thinking about the game, hoping all the work we'd done in practice would show in game situations." Then he added, "I was determined not to go home after this one without being aggressive, without going for it when I could. We have the kind of kids that can do that type of thing."

The seventh inning showed why the play was, as Wilford Brimley would say, 'the right thing to do.' The first man flew to center. Kramer belted a double off Scherban. Pat Murphy drove a hard bouncer to Jorgensen's backhand side at short. Jorgensen fielded it smoothly and gunned down the runner at first. (He took a look, but it was his only play.) Kramer advanced to third.

Betzold pushed a short fly down the leftfield line. Malone, going full bore, managed to get it in his glove. But it dribbled out. Kramer came home with the third Lancers' run.

The throw in from the outfield was wild and way over to the Agawam rightfield stripe. Before the Brownies could regroup, Betzold was camped on third.

There were two dozen and the faithful were getting nervous. If Scherban (2 1/3, 1 hit, 1 run, 3 K's) felt the same way, you'd never know it. He reared back and brought in the heat, striking out Loonie to end it.

Jacobsen got the win. Scherban got the save. Agawam had four hits. They left four men on base. Two of their four runs were unearned. They committed two errors.

**Girls' Hoop Banquet**

**MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL girls' varsity basketball team, Valley Wheel champs and Division I semi-finalists, gathered for their annual banquet on March 24th. ABOVE, Coach Lou Conte is pictured with his three senior captains - Courtne Hyland, Steph Biza, and Jamie Thomas. BELOW are the four graduating seniors- Courtne Hyland, Steph Biza, Jennie VanGys, and Jamie Thomas. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.**

**WEST SIDE LOSS - from Page 34...****Terriers Load The Bases...**

A subsequent walk to Zatyka loaded them up. Then catcher Dave Delbuono hit a bleeder to Jorgensen in front of second. A Brownie defensive meltdown had everyone off their bag. Jorgensen had no one anywhere to take his throw. Another run scored, making it 3-1, West Springfield, with the bases still loaded.

A slow roller by the next man up went down to Pisano at third. The experienced senior gunned down the lead runner at the plate. Leftfielder D.J. Fountain then drilled a two-out single to right, scoring two. A Matt Gromanski run-scoring double after that was enough to chase Maynard (1/3 IP, 4 hits, 5 runs, all earned, 1 walk). Dan Pellegrino (1/3 IP, 1 hit, no walks, 2 strikeouts) came on, trailing 7-1 with two outs.

Lyman hit a Baltimore chop to short for a single. Then he stole second. Gromanski, who'd been on third courtesy of the chop, came home on another Brownie defensive mix-up on that steal. A fly out to left mercifully ended the inning.

Agawam came up trailing, 8-1. Centerfielder Jim Baldyga (0-2) walked. After a Bryan Menard (1-3, 1 stolen base) fly out, Jacobsen hit an off-field double, scoring Baldyga. Then Pisano, hanging tough as always, punched a two-strike single over second. Jacobsen legged it home.

West Side changed pitchers. Steve Blanchette (6 1/3 IP, 5 hits, 3 runs, all earned, 3 walks, 2 K's) gave way to Matt Gromanski, who took it the rest of the way.

The 8-3 loss puts the Brownie record at 1-1 at presstime. This was West Side's first game.

Blanchette got the win. Malone took the loss. Agawam came to the plate 26 times and recorded six hits, including a double. They drew four walks and left five on base. They had no errors. The Brownies managed one stolen base and were caught stealing once.

"We just didn't play well. Our hitters didn't produce in the clutch, and our defenders didn't back up our pitchers," Smith somberly noted after the game was over.

The third contest of their season, opening a four-game homestand, was at presstime Wednesday, April 10th, against defending Western Mass Champs Westfield.

**Local Students Receive Awards For Athletics At Suffield Academy**

At the Athletic Awards Assembly at Suffield Academy on March 28th, the following local students were honored with varsity letters:

Sarah Cowan of Agawam was awarded with a varsity letter for dance.

Adam Lajeunesse of Agawam, Garrick Orsatti of Agawam, and William Rivers of Feeding Hills received varsity letters for wrestling.

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## AHS Wrestlers Gather For Annual Banquet



**MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL** varsity wrestling team, again the Western Mass. champs, gathered for their annual banquet on March 27th. **IN PHOTO LEFT** are members of the Class of 1996. Back row - Derek Parker, Matt Gordon, Mike Pesolano, Tony Russo, and Mike Loguidice. Front row - Andrew "The Tiger" Ingham, Jon "The Turtle" Jacobsen, Chris "The Possum" Chechile, Eric "The Rabbi" Johnson, and Justin "The Buzz" Aldredge. **IN PHOTO RIGHT**, Assistant Coach Gary Geiger is pictured with team captains Jon Jacobsen, Chris Chechile, and Andrew Ingham. Advertiser

News photos by Jack Devine.

## Ingham Continues Road To Recovery From The Pains Of A Broken Back

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

Agawam High School has many outstanding athletes. But this guy truly has the 'eye of the tiger.' He's wrestler Andrew Ingham. Recently, the 18 year-old senior took some time out to talk about himself and his time at AHS. He talked about the broken back that ended his wrestling career at AHS later on.

He likes school a great deal. "The social life, mostly," he says. Then he added, "It's nice to get up in the morning and have a good place to go."

His favorite subjects are diverse. "Drama, history, and algebra are the ones." Mrs. (Margo) Poulin (theater) and Mr. (Joseph) Fitzgerald (history) are his favorite teachers.

We all know about his wrestling exploits. We'll get to them momentarily. But Andrew played football last fall. And he was a good outside linebacker. Football wasn't necessarily his sport. He explained how he ended up putting on the pads.

"Last summer, I was hanging out with three of my football friends—(fullback) Dom Pisano, (quarterback) Jeff Harlin, and (center) Dan Pellegrino. We were talking. And they asked me to try out for the football team. I thought about it. Then they told me that if I played football, they'd all go out for the wrestling team."

Andrew laughed. "If you noticed last winter, none of them did. They all came up with an excuse why they couldn't do it. It was okay, though. I had a good time playing football."

**"All In The Family"**

Wrestling is Andrew's sport. Much of his participation in it has to do with his brothers, Al and Anthony, who wrestled for the Brownies in the early and middle 80's.

"Al was a heavyweight. He won the state title twice. Anthony was a 141-pounder who was one tough customer," Andrew noted.

Andrew's father is Alfred T. Ingham IV. "My brother, Al, is the fifth," Andrew says proudly. "At

one time, we had five generations of our family alive at one time."

His mother's name is Andrea. And he has a story about that. "Everyone in my paternal family has a first name that begins with an 'A.'" Andrew has no sisters.

His most memorable and positive athletic moment came in 1995, when he won the state wrestling title in his division. "My goal, when I started to wrestle, was to win the states four years in a row," Andrew admits.

That would be a tall order even for someone with his talents. Besides the state championship, he was the Western Mass. champion in his sophomore and junior years.

He had two disappointments in his great career. First, of course, was the broken back he suffered at a meet in Brockton this season. It ended his high school wrestling career. He was the odds-on favorite to win another Western Mass. and state crown.

"There is another one," he notes. "In '95, I lost in the All-States, 8-4, to the guy who eventually became the New England champion. I'll never believe he was better than me. I just didn't wrestle well in that one match."

Like most young guys, Andrew likes to eat. "My favorite food of all time is American chop suey," he laughed. "My mom makes the best in the country. I mean that." Then he added, "My girlfriend is a close second when it comes to that dish."

He likes to hang out around town at Games and Lanes and also across the street from there at E.B.'s Restaurant. "Almost every Friday night, my friends and I go down there and order 100 of their hottest chicken wings."

SEE INGHAM - Page 38...

## Agawam Little League Slates Spring Clean-Up Day For This Saturday

The Agawam Little League has scheduled its "School Street" spring clean-up day for this coming Saturday, April 13th, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Volunteers are needed.

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## St. Michael's Is Leading 3rd Round In Tri-Parish Bowling

With time running out in the third round of the Monday night Tri-Parish Bowling League, St. Michael's (22 wins) appears to be in line to win the title as Fordham (19 wins) and Catholic University (17.5 wins) are hoping to gain some ground before the Grand Championships begin.

Ninth place Holy Cross (8½ wins) gave St. Mike's all it could handle on Monday evening, April 8th at the Agawam Bowl. HC winners included second roller JOHN MLINEK (266, 95.14 in Men's B), SUE GRIFFIN (271, 99.2 in Women's AA), and Captain DEBBIE POIRIER, a 369-335 conquerer of league strongman JERRY ALLEN (116.18 in Open Class). Debbie rolls at a 105.77 clip in the Open Class but is still trailing FLO ROCHFORD in the women's race.

The lone winner for frontrunning St. Mike's was leadoff roller MAYBETH "Miss Consistent" COUGHLIN. Maybeth fired a nifty 300. She averages 92.62 in Women's A.

Fordham faced fourth place Boston College (16 wins) in a match that can only be described as "fair" at best. Fordham winners were second roller CORI NAPOLITAN (256-253 over STELLA BARBIERI; Cori is at 96.61 in Women's A), third roller TERRI CERPOVICZ (282, 94.11 in Women's A), and Captain "Jollie" OLLIE MULDER, a 331-328 grudge match winner over none other than "Jungle" JIM MCCORMICK. "Jollie" is at 112.50 in the Open Class while "Jungle" Jim is at 103.48 in Men's AA.

The only winner for BC was leadoff roller DAVE ALDRICH (268, 88.25 in Men's C).

In the next match, eighth place St. Louis (10 wins) faced seventh place St. Anselm (11 wins). St. A's winners were LOU NAPOLITAN (269, 84.31 in Men's C) and YVONNE CHARTIER (341, 105.12 in Women's AA).

The two winners for St. Lou were second roller KIM LACROIX (306, 93.33 in Women's B) and Captain GLEN ADAMS, a 340-324 conquerer over "Luscious" LOU MULDER. Glen watched his average move to a Men's AA leading 109.53 while "Luscious" rolls at 110.54 in the Open Class.

In the next match, sixth place Notre Dame (14 wins) faced third place Catholic University (17½ wins). This was an even split for the most part. CU winners were leadoff TAMMY VOGEL (241, 80.4 in Women's C) and second roller MARY THOMAS (295, 99.27 in Women's A).

The two winners for ND were DON "Don't Sit On" STITT (292) and Captain FLO ROCHFORD, an easy 328-289 winner over BILL GRIFFIN (102.52 in Men's AA). Flo now appears to have a lock on the women's crown with an average of 107.36.

The bye team this week was fifth place St. Mary's (16 wins). The scores are as follows: RITA SCOTT (245), VENETTA SNYDER (270), FRANKIE CERPOVICZ (255), and JOHN LONCRINI (298).

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## New AHS Boys Tennis Coach Bill Spear Hoping To Improve On Team's 5-9 Record

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

Though it might not have looked much like weather for outdoor tennis this week, the local high school teams are getting ready for the season just the same. Agawam High will start their campaign with a new coach, 1975 AHS graduate Bill Spear. And he's meeting a team that, according to him, has a lot of potential and spirited battles going on for most of the starting spots in both singles and doubles.

The number-one singles job is being heavily contested by two kids—junior **Mike Freeman** and sophomore **Jeff Lyman**. Both are right-handers. And the coach is impressed by both of them.

"Mike is a very adaptable player. He's mostly a base liner with a good serve. And he has good footwork, which enables him to run down a lot of balls," the coach noted.

"Jeff, who played for us last year as a freshman, picked up a lot of experience. He also has good ground strokes. And with a little work, we feel he will become an excellent serve and volley player."

The coach also mentioned that the two were the Brownies' number-one doubles team last year, which means they know each other's game pretty well. That fact makes their fight for the top job even more interesting for all involved.

The third singles spot is up for grabs, too. It's being contested by two underclassmen, junior right-hander **Kyle Rossi** and sophomore **Ted Lee**, also a righty. The coach is impressed with Lee's overall quickness. "He's improving every day," Spear said. "Kyle has an excellent forehand and serve."

Spear noted that he'll carry only three starting singles spots on the team this year. So one of these kids will be the odd man out.

He did stress, however, that all during the

season, they'll battle for a spot before every team match. That means all will probably get a chance to play. How much overall playing time they get will be the question.

Everyone else is fighting for a doubles job. The coach feels he has some good ones there, as well.

He mentioned senior righty **Scott Litchfield**. "He has a good return and a good return of serve." Litchfield might be teamed up with another right-hander, senior **Tim Drenzek**.

There are others who'll get a close look from Spear. Senior right-hander **T.J. Gontczaruk** is among them. Also high on the coach's list is a returning sophomore, **Bill Bellico**. He added promising newcomer, sophomore **Jeff Machia**. "Jeff has good instincts and the potential to develop a fine all-around game," Spear says of the young right-hander.

He also mentioned first-year player and left-hander **Brett Demers**. "Brett is another kid who could go as far as he wants to go."

Doubles involves a lot of insight and study by a coach. "You have to watch them closely and try to get a sense of the players who seem to work well together."

Spear has an idea of the way he wants his team to play this season. "We're going to strive for consistency and as close to error-free tennis as we can in both singles and doubles." Then he added, "Also, I want them to adopt a winning attitude and carry it through the season. And I want them to keep that attitude, win or lose. A mind set like that can only be a positive thing, no matter what happens."

And they will have some tough ones this year, against the likes of Longmeadow, Amherst, and Cathedral, as they try to improve upon last year's 5-9 record.

### ANDREW INGHAM - from Page 37...

He has a hero - former Putnam High and Western New England College wrestler Rodney Smith. In 1992, Smith won the Olympic bronze medal in Greco Roman wrestling. "He's helped me a lot in my wrestling career."

#### Off To The Sunshine State

It looks like Andrew will attend St. Leo's College in Tampa, Florida. He wants to major in sports management. One day he would like to head a Division I collegiate program.

How would he like to be remembered at AHS? "I hope people will think of me as a hard working athlete who never gave up." Then he added, "I

also want to thank everyone who stood by me through my career and my injury. I'll miss them all."

And what of the broken back? Andrew is back in school now. He wears a brace. He has some pain. He's dealing with it. "It's getting less and less everyday," he said.

Will he ever be able to wrestle again? "I really don't know," he admitted. At this writing, he had a doctor's appointment on Wednesday. They were going to assess his injury.

"I hope to play some non-contact sports, though," he added. "I have an eight handicap in golf. Maybe I can make the school golf team this year."

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## Riverside Speedway's Third Race Postponed Due To Rain And Snow

Ben Dodge, Jr. of Riverside Park Speedway tried everything, but spring has yet to exist in New England!

The day—Saturday, April 6th—started with sunshine and ended with freezing rain and snow showers. That's right ... SNOW! Just as the Modified Tour cars were in the midst of their time trials, the rain came, followed by snow.

After a 45-minute delay, the weather forecast made the management team postpone the event to this Saturday, April 13th. The race fans will use the April 6th tickets for the April 13th event; pit passes with arm bands will also be honored this Saturday.

The only division that did complete its feature was the Strictly Stock class. Dennis Charette became the first repeat winner in 1996, starting from the pole by luck of the draw.

A real battle for second occurred in the last 10 laps, as Al Leone came from mid-pack to challenge Herb Carlon for second. These two battled wheel-to-wheel.

Todd Malvezzi worked his way up to second at one time, but he eventually finished fourth over Scott Neleber. Sixth through 10th went to Glen Reilly, Patrick Townsend, Kris Valerio, Jim Sommers, and Mike Salmond.

On Saturday, April 13th, the NAPA Auto Parts program continues where it left off with new time trials for the Modified Tour Division and the Late Model consolation. The Pro Stocks will run heat races and consi events.

The race will also feature new Strictly Stock heats and features. The Late Models will run a 25-lap feature; the Pro Stocks will have a 40-lap feature; and the Modifieds will compete for 50 laps.

Riverside will open its pit area at 10:30 a.m., and the action is set to start at 6:00 p.m. Admission tickets are \$12.99 for adults, and \$2.99 for kids (11 years of age and under). The pit fee for NASCAR members is \$18.

For more information, call (413) 786-9300.

## Agawam Parks Dept. Offering Many Programs For The Spring

**DROP-IN AEROBICS:** Mon./Wed./Thurs., 7:00-8:00 p.m., \$3/night. Held at the Agawam Middle School. Instructed by Karen Wilson-Mickey. Participants must supply their own mats.

The Recreation Department, in conjunction with The Rollaway, will sponsor the following:

**SPEED SKATING:** Learn the basics of speed skating. Sundays, April 14th, 21st, 28th, May 5th. 5:15-6:15 p.m. \*\$18. NO INLINES ALLOWED.

**ROLLER HOCKEY:** Ages 8-15. Protective equipment required. Sundays, April 14th, 21st, 28th, May 5th. 6:30-7:30 p.m. \*\$18. NO INLINES ALLOWED.

\* PRICES ABOVE INCLUDE SKATE RENTALS.

**NEW!! YOUTH TRACK PROGRAM:** Ages 9-14 years as of July 1, 1996. \$20. Sundays, April 28th-May 19th, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Agawam High Track. Instructed by Dan Pryce.

Participants will learn the fundamentals of

track and field.

**HERSHEY TRACK MEET** will be held in early June. Watch for detailed flyers at a later date.

For more information on the above programs, call the Recreation Office at 786-0400, ext. 456.

The Recreation Department welcomes persons with disabilities in all programs and services. Please call our office so that we will know how to best serve you.

The Town of Agawam does not carry insurance to cover hospitalization or medical costs of anyone injured while participating in or watching any of our Parks and Recreation Department programs.

PLEASE NOTE, you enter our programs at your own risk.

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## Riverside Park Is Set To Open For 1996 On Saturday, April 13th

Riverside Amusement Park, located in Agawam, opens for its 57th season of operation on Saturday, April 13, 1996 at 11:00 a.m.

The park opened for operation in the spring of 1940 under the ownership of Edward Carroll, and is now owned and operated by his son, Ed Carroll, Jr.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place at the Riverside Amusement Park Main Street Gazebo on Saturday morning at 11:00 a.m. Mayor Christopher Johnson is expected to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony as a special guest of Ed Carroll, Jr.

Riverside Amusement Park boasts four new rides for the 1996 season, including "Rolling Thunder," a roller coaster the whole family can ride. The Rolling Thunder ride is expected to open a few weeks after the initial park opening.

Another fun ride for the whole family is the "Kiddie Himalaya," an exciting "trip through the mountains." Kids will also love the all-new "Kiddie Flume" as well as the "Kiddie Wave Swinger," each designed specifically for our younger guests.

Riverside Amusement Park employees have been busying themselves recently in preparation for the 1996 season. If prior years are an indication of what to expect, Riverside Park Food Service will have to cook and serve 10 miles of hot dogs!

Riverside Amusement Park will give out over 175,000 stuffed toys at our gamestands. Stand these toys together and you would have a "toy train" that would travel from Riverside to downtown Springfield and back.

Also, the ride operators enthusiastically wait as approximately 575,000 visitors will dare to experience the heart-pounding intensity of the Cyclone Rollercoaster.

Riverside Amusement Park has employed over 8,000 people since 1990, and approximately 45,000 people since the park's opening in 1940. Riverside, the largest seasonal employer in the state, has been a consistent and rewarding employer to Massachusetts and Connecticut residents for many years.

## Polish Club 8-10 Playoff Champs



TEAM MEMBERS OF THE POLISH CLUB KNIGHTS, playoff champs of the Agawam Athletic Association's boys' 8-10 hoop league. Back row, from left - Coaches Dave Pickett and Fred Perry. Middle row - Michael Pickett, Michael DeFilippi, Justin Perry, and Shane Sufritti. Front row - Kyle Perry, Patrick Desmond, Kevin Malloch, Kevin Olbrych, Danny Mason, and Alex Seymour.

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## Six Daggett Gymnasts Compete At Girls' State Championships

Six members of Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics girls' team competed at the Massachusetts USA Gymnastics State Championships held recently at Algonquin Regional High School in Northboro.

**Leila Sekkal**, 13, of Feeding Hills competed March 23rd at the Level 8 State Championships. Over 140 gymnasts competed over two days. Leila's age group (13-14) had the largest number of competitors with 59. Leila scored a 32.05 with an event best of an 8.6 on beam.

The Level 9 & 10 State Championships took place Saturday, March 30th. Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics was represented by five gymnasts.

**Michelle Germano**, 13, of West Springfield competed in the Level 10 Championship. **Kadee Bramley**, 12, of South Windsor, CT; **Brynne Kennedy**, 12, of Pittsfield; **Amy Reynolds**, 12, of West Springfield; and **Jaime Scott-Smith**, 11, of Southwick were the members of the second-place Level 9 team with a score of 105.75, missing the team title by .2 of a point.

Michelle was the State All-Around Champion in the 13-14 age group with a score of 36.025, qualifying her for regionals, which will take place April 12-14, 1996 at the University of New Hampshire.

Michelle will be trying to qualify for the Junior Olympic Level 10 National Championships to take place May 2-5, 1996 in Duluth, Georgia. Michelle was the State Champion on beam with a score of 9.4. She placed second on floor (9.075), third on vault (9.05), and fourth on bars with a score of 8.5.

All four of the Level 9 gymnasts qualified to the Level 9 Regional Championships, April 19-20, 1996 in Sekauket, NY.

Brynne Kennedy qualified as the top gymnast of the seven gymnasts on the Massachusetts Level 9 team by scoring the highest Level 9 All-Around of 35.7 in the meet. Brynne was the All-Around Champion in the 12-13 age group.

**Jaime Scott-Smith** was the All-Around Champion in the 8-11 age group with a score of 34.225. **Kadee Bramley** placed third (34.65) and **Amy Reynolds** was sixth (33.375) in the 12-13 age group All-Around.

Kadee, Jaime, and Amy will be competing as individuals at the regional meet.



**MEDAL WINNING GYMNASTS of the Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics Team included, from left - Brynne Kennedy, Michelle Germano, and Jaime Scott-Smith.** Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Being the only gymnast to qualify in the 8-11 age group, Jaime received only the All-Around trophy. Jaime's high score included an 8.95 on vault, 8.825 on beam, and an 8.75 on floor.

Brynne was the State Champion on both floor with a 9.3, and bars with a score of 8.65. She was also second on beam (9.1) and fifth on vault (8.65).

Kadee Bramley was second on both floor (9.0) and bars (8.5), and third on beam with a score of 8.8.

Amy Reynolds placed third on vault (8.775) and fourth on bars with a score of 8.45.

The girls are coached by Joe Salmeri (head coach and co-owner of Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics), Marina Vernaya, and Pat Rooney.



### Golf Tip Of The Week...

Compiled by  
**Jim Modzelesky,**  
PGA  
Oak Ridge Golf Club,  
Feeding Hills, MA

### Looking Forward To Great Golfing Weather

The long winter months are now over, as we can all now look forward to seven or eight months of great golfing weather. So let's all forget about the past (winter of 1995-96) and look to the future (summer of 1996).

My "Golf Tip Of The Week..." this season will try to cover all of the parts of the game of golf. I will have tips on the areas of the game covering fundamentals, equipment, on and around the greens, playing the game, shotmaking, and equipment.

Most of my text for this season has been compiled from a recent book put on the market and written by "Ken Venturi." The book is titled "Stroke Savers." Hopefully, *The AAN* readers will find these stroke saver tips will help you to improve your games and to make practicing more fun and interesting.

There will be nothing fancy or complicated about these tips. Everything is based on fundamentals that have stood the test of time. I will even start my tips next week with some advice on etiquette.

The believe these 1996 golf tips will help every golfer, from those just taking up the game, to the low handicapper looking for those tips that can save a stroke or two a round. I hopes these stroke saver tips do become stroke savers for you.

Look for my "Golf Tip Of The Week..." to begin next week in *The AAN*.

(P.S.: The Oak Ridge Golf Club and *The Agawam Advertiser News* will again be co-sponsoring the Junior Golf Program. As in the past, this program will be offered at no charge to children from age eight to 16. More information and the application forms will be forthcoming in future *Agawam Advertiser* newspapers.)

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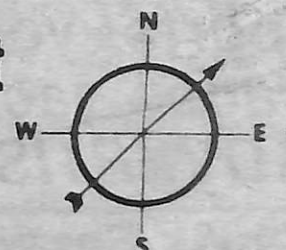
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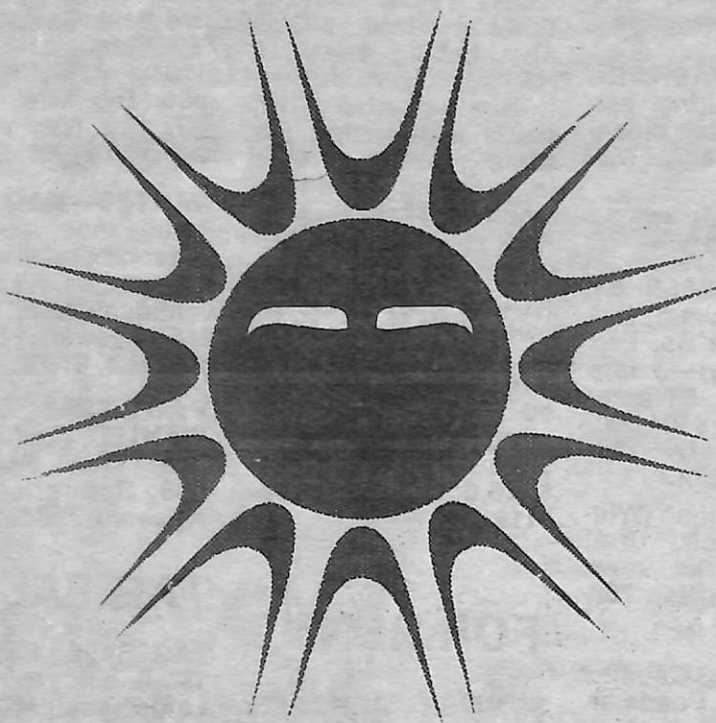
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# GET READY FOR THE PROM OR SUMMER

## TANNING SPECIALS!



**1 MONTH UNLIMITED \$39 (Reg \$59)**  
**2 MONTH UNLIMITED \$69 (Reg \$99)**  
**10 SESSIONS..... \$39**

**HURRY! OFFERS END 4/15/96!**



60 North Westfield Street  
 Feeding Hills, MA 01030  
 (413) 786-1460

## SPRING SCHOOL VACATION

## KID'S KAMP

**BY DAY OR BY WEEK at FITNESS FIRST**  
**APRIL 15 - 19!**

*Let Fitness First entertain your children during this spring Vacation!*  
*Fitness First's Kid's Kamp will run the entire week of vacation April 15-19 for children of members and non-members from 10 am - 2 pm each day! You may pick and choose the days or sign them up for the whole week and save! They'll have a ball swimming and playing games - and even make a few new friends along the way!*

*\$90/week or \$20 per day for Fitness First members*  
*\$115/week or \$25 per day for non-members*  
*Discounts for multiple siblings available!*

*Swimming!*  
*Games!*  
*Exercise!*

*Indoor & outdoor sports!*  
*Arts & Crafts!*  
*Fun Kamp Experience!*

*Applications available at Fitness First. Stop by or call 786-1460.*  
*Deadline for all applications is Thursday, April 11th.*

